

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

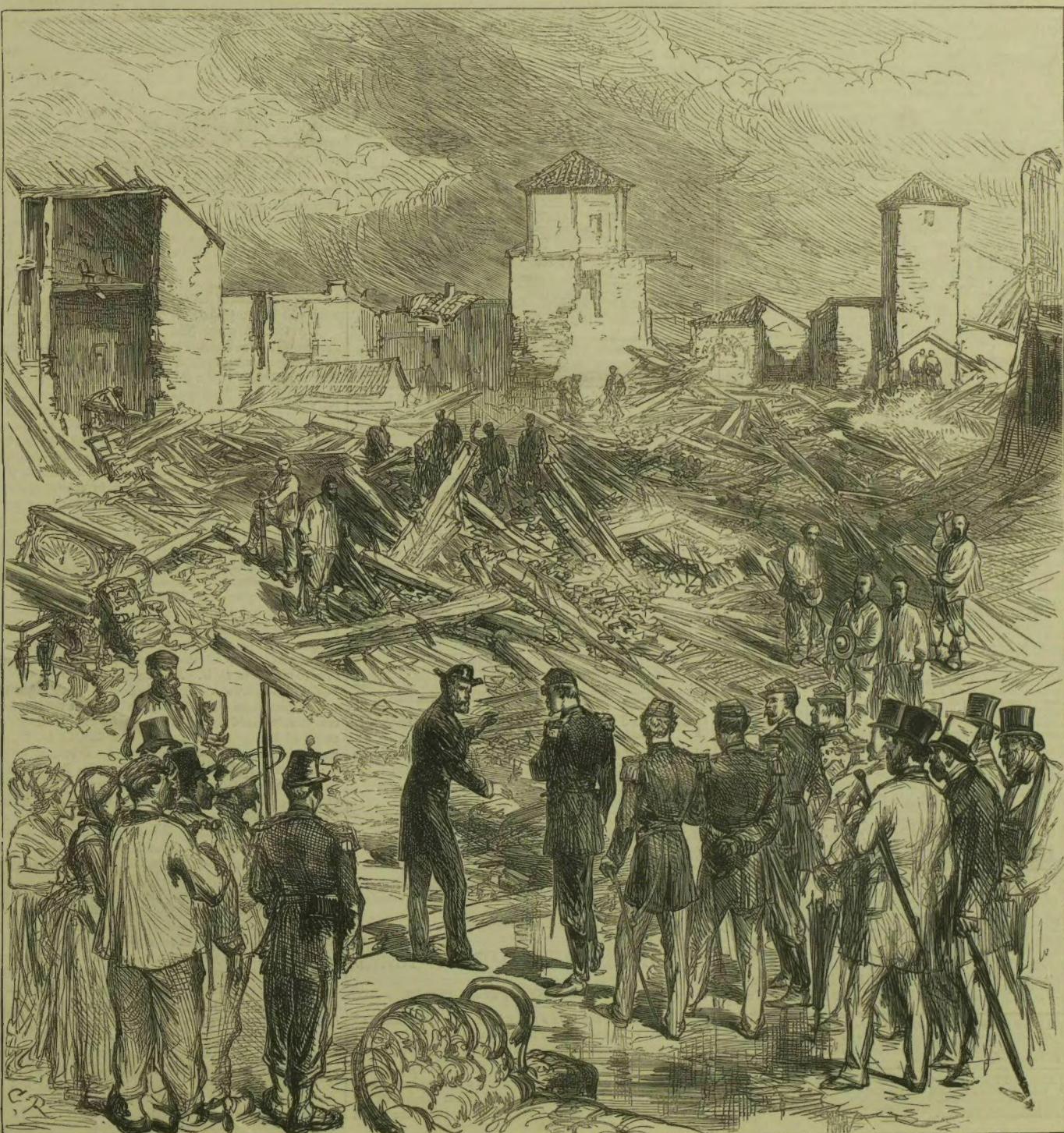


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THE FLOODS IN FRANCE: MARSHAL MACMAHON VISITING THE FAUBOURG ST. CYPRIEN, TOULOUSE.



this effect they will employ the most skilful and, possibly, the most unscrupulous strategy that may suggest itself to their excited apprehensions. They may perhaps put off their impending doom till next year. Only those who are intimately acquainted with the internal mechanism of political parties in France can hazard even a guess. But such is the prominent question of the day, and it is a question the answer to which will, no doubt, be given by the Assembly during the progress of the present month.

We are not quite sure what to wish in regard to this matter. Under ordinary circumstances, we should desire that the prospects of France should be settled at the earliest practicable moment, and we should be extremely cautious of incurring the responsibility of postponing by a single day (supposing that such a decision were in our power) a final appeal to the French people for the declaration of their political will. But, in the event of its being deferred for a few months, we may fairly hope that it will not be all for evil. The discipline through which political life in France is passing is probably worth all the inconvenience which it inflicts. The nation is gaining mastery over its own impulses. It is learning the lesson that the shortest cut to freedom is not always the nearest way; that the stability of institutions is identified with individual self-restraint and moderation; and that the best mode of checking revolutionary tendencies is that of firmly keeping in hand one's own political passions.

#### THE COURT.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service on Sunday in the private chapel of Windsor Castle. The Rev. Francis Figou, M.A., Vicar of Doncaster, officiated.

Her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, went to Chiswick on Monday, and was present at the garden party given by the Prince and Princess of Wales. The Queen travelled by a special train on the South-Western Railway to Chiswick, and was escorted to and from Chiswick House by a detachment of the Life Guards, returning to Windsor at half-past seven o'clock.

Her Majesty, with Princess Beatrice, was present on Tuesday, at an inspection of the second battalion of Grenadier Guards, under the command of Colonel Higginson, C.B., held by Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, C.B., commanding the home district.

The Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz visited the Queen and remained to luncheon. Mlle. Georgina Schubert and M. Wieniawski had the honour of performing before her Majesty, the Grand Duke and Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold at Windsor Castle. Mr. Cusim presided at the piano. The Marquis of Herford, Earl Beauchamp, and Lord Henry Somerset presented a joint Address to the Queen from both Houses of Parliament with reference to the issue of a Commission to inquire into the recent election for the city of Norwich. Her Majesty's dinner-party included Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, the Duke of Cambridge, the Countess of Caledon, the Duchess of Roxburghe, Lieutenant-General Sir T. M. and the Hon. Lady Biddulph, Colonel Higginson, C.B. (commanding second battalion Grenadier Guards), and Viscount Hawarden. The band of the Grenadier Guards, conducted by Mr. Dan Godfrey, played in the quadrangle of the castle during dinner.

The Judge Advocate-General had an audience of the Queen on Wednesday. Prince Leopold went to Boyton Manor, St. Mary's, Wiltshire, to be present at the marriage of Mr. Collins, which took place on Thursday.

The Queen has entertained at dinner, during the week, the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch, Lady Hermione and Miss Graham, Lieutenant-General Sir T. M. and the Hon. Lady Biddulph, General Sir Richard Airey, the Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy, Major-General Sir H. Ponsonby, and the Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley.

Her Majesty, with Princess Beatrice, has walked and driven out daily.

The Poland-street Hand-bell Ringers, conducted by Mr. Duncan S. Miller, performed before the Queen, yesterday week, at Windsor Castle.

Lady Elizabeth Adeane is Bedchamber Woman in Waiting to her Majesty. Viscount Hawarden and Lieutenant-General Sir Francis Seymour, K.C.B., have succeeded the Earl of Redon and Mr. Donald Cameron (of Lochiel) as Lord and Groom in Waiting, and Colonel the Hon. H. Byng has succeeded Colonel du Plat as Equerry in Waiting to the Queen.

#### COURT MOURNING.

The following were the orders for the Court's going into mourning, on Tuesday last, for the late Emperor Ferdinand, uncle of the Emperor of Austria—viz., the ladies to wear black dresses, white gloves, black or white shoes, feathers, and fans, pearls, diamonds, or plain gold or silver ornaments. The gentlemen to wear black Court dress, with black swords and buckles. The Court to change the mourning on Tuesday, the 13th inst.—viz., the ladies to wear black dresses, with coloured ribbons, flowers, feathers, and ornaments, or grey or white dresses, with black ribbons, flowers, feathers, and ornaments. The gentlemen to continue the same mourning. And on Friday, the 16th inst., the Court to go out of mourning.

#### ROYAL GARDEN PARTY.

The Prince and Princess of Wales gave a garden party at Chiswick on Monday, at which the Queen was present, attended by the Duchess of Roxburghe, the Countess of Caledon, the Hon. Harriet Phipps, Colonel du Plat, and Colonel Gardiner. The children of the Prince and Princess were present; also Princess Beatrice, the Queen of the Netherlands, the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia, the Grand Duke Constantine Constantinovich, Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Prince Leopold, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck. The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught, Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne, the Duchess of Cambridge, and the Sultan of Zanzibar were unavoidably absent. Invitations to the number of nearly 3000 were issued. The bands of the 2nd Life Guards and Scots Fusilier Guards were in attendance.

#### THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were visited, on Thursday week, by Prince and Princess Christian and the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. On the following day the Prince, accompanied by the Grand Duke Alexis and the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia, went to Sandown Park races. The Princess, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales, went to Grosvenor House and was present at the examination of the pupils of the Association for the Oral Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb. In the

evening the Prince and Princess were present at a ball given by Mr. and Mrs. Halford, at their residence, Dorchester House, Park-lane. Their Royal Highnesses, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Teck, went to Sandown races on Saturday. Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud of Wales, who have been staying at the Royal Victoria Hotel, St. Leonards-on-Sea, during the past fortnight, returned to Marlborough House. The Grand Dukes Alexis and Constantine of Russia dined with the Prince and Princess on Sunday; and on Monday, after the garden party at Chiswick, their Royal Highnesses were present at a ball given by Earl and Countess Dudley at their residence in Park-lane.

Mr. Albert Grey, son of the late General the Hon. Charles Grey, will accompany Sir Bartle Frere as private secretary on the Prince's visit to India.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ellis has succeeded Lieutenant-Colonel Teesdale as Equerry in Waiting to the Prince.

#### THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS.

The Queen of the Netherlands was visited, last week, at Claridge's Hotel, by the Empress Eugénie. Her Majesty was present at a garden party, yesterday week, at Weezell Lodge, Wimbledon, and in the evening was present at a dinner and an evening party given by Lord and Lady Egerton of Tatton, at their residence in St. James's-square. On Saturday last the Queen visited the Royal Academy and the Albert Hall, and paid visits to the Duchess of Teck and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar and Countess Dornberg; and in the evening dined with Earl and Countess Cowley, in Albemarle-street, where the Duke of Cambridge and a small party assembled after dinner. On Sunday her Majesty attended Divine service at the Dutch church, Austin Friars. Later in the day the Queen visited the Duchess of Cambridge, at Cambridge Cottage, Kew, and Earl and Countess Russell, at Pembroke Lodge, Richmond Park, and dined with Lord Carlingford and Frances Countess of Waldegrave, at Strawberry Hill. On Monday the Queen visited the building of the National Safe Deposit Company, which has just been opened for business; after inspecting the curious collection of Roman coins, instruments, and other antiquities discovered in digging the foundation of the building, her Majesty was conducted by Lord William Hay, Mr. Whitchurch, the architect, and the chairman, over the establishment, in which she was greatly interested. The Queen witnessed the meeting of the Four-in-Hand Club in Hyde Park; and afterwards accompanied Prince and Princess Christian to the garden party at Chiswick, and in the evening was present at the Royal Italian Opera, Covent-garden. On Tuesday her Majesty went to Colonel Butler-Johnstone's residence in Seymour-place, Mayfair, to view his collection of paintings, and also visited Sir Alexander and Lady Malet. Her Majesty had luncheon with the Duke of Cambridge, at Gloucester House, and afterwards called on Lord and Lady Vernon. The Queen dined with his Excellency the Netherlands Minister and Countess de Bylandt at their residence in Grosvenor-gardens, and was afterwards present at an evening party. On Wednesday her Majesty visited the infant schools in Tower-street, Seven Dials, and went to the Victoria Theatre and heard Messrs. Moody and Sankey. Subsequently the Queen was present at Lady Holland's garden party, and in the evening dined with Lady Molesworth. On Thursday her Majesty went to the Countess of Airlie's garden party. The Queen has dined with Mr. W. Robertson Sandbach, at his house at Prince's-gate, Hyde Park; and has visited the Foreign Office, the National Portrait Gallery at South Kensington, and other places of interest. Her Majesty has received a large number of distinguished visitors at her hotel, and has also paid visits to the principal members of the aristocracy. The Queen is expected to leave England to-day (Saturday) for Rotterdam.

#### THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh and Prince Alfred arrived at Copenhagen on Saturday last. They were met by the Crown Prince of Denmark, who accompanied them to Helsingør, where the King of Denmark had arrived to meet the Duke and Duchess, and accompanied them to Fredensborg Castle. Their Royal Highnesses gave a banquet on board the Osborne on Wednesday. The Duke and Duchess left for St. Petersburg on Thursday. The King of Denmark has conferred upon the Duke the Order of the Elephant.

The Grand Duke Alexis and his cousin, the Grand Duke Constantine, left Claridge's Hotel on Monday evening for Gravesend, and there embarked on board the Imperial yacht, which set sail at an early hour the next morning for the Mediterranean. His Excellency Count Schouvaloff attended the Grand Duke to the train at Charing-cross.

The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz arrived on Saturday last from the Continent to join the Grand Duchess at St. James's Palace.

His Excellency the French Ambassador has returned to the French Embassy from Paris.

His Excellency Count Beust left the Austrian Embassy on Saturday for Brighton.

The Duke and Duchess of Argyll have left Argyll Lodge, Campen-hill, for Inverary Castle, Argyllshire.

The Duke of Devonshire has left Devonshire House for Chatsworth.

The Earl and Countess of Bective have left town for Brighton.

Baron and Lady Diana Huddleston have left London for the season.

Sir Lawrence and Lady Palk have left Grosvenor-gardens for Haldon House, near Exeter.

Sir Henry and Lady Tufton have left Chesterfield-gardens, Mayfair, for their seat in Kent.

The Earl of Ayrton and his bride arrived at the family residence, Glenarm Castle, last week, after passing the honeymoon on the Continent. They were received with the utmost enthusiasm and rejoicing by their retainers and tenantry.

Entertainments have been given by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Tait, the Duke of Norfolk, the Duke of Richmond, the Marquis and Marchioness of Hartford, the Marquis and Marchioness of Donegal, Countess Amherst, Countess Poulett, the Earl and Countess of Bradford, the Earl and Countess of Selton, the Earl and Countess of Egmont, the Earl and Countess of Ashburnham, Earl and Countess Manners, the Earl and Countess of Lonsdale, the Countess of Airlie, Viscount and Viscountess Holmesdale, Lord Houghton, Lord and Lady Lurgan, Lord and Lady Hemmiker, Lady Molesworth, Lady Dashwood, Lady Holland, and the Lord Chancellor and Lady Cairns.

The Emperor of Germany has conferred the order of the Red Eagle of the Second Class upon Captain Charles Fellowes, C.B., superintendent of Chatham Dockyard.

A Parliamentary paper, issued last Saturday, states that the amount required by the Army Purchase Commissioners for the year ending March 31, 1876, is estimated at £635,580, being a decrease of £21,180 compared with the sum required last year.

#### BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.

Under the presidency of the Duke of Cambridge, the annual festival of the Female Orphan Asylum at Beddington was held yesterday week, the Prince and Princess of Teck being also present and taking part in the proceedings. Our paper last week contained an engraving of the dining-hall.

At Grosvenor House, the residence of the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, a meeting was held, yesterday week, under the auspices of the Association for the Oral Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, to exhibit the system of "lip-speaking" by which the pupils of the institution are trained. The Princess of Wales, with the Princes Albert Victor and George, was among the company present; and, after Lord Granville had given an account of the deaf and dumb school, some interesting examples of the method of communication adopted in it were witnessed by the visitors. The children, of whom there were about twenty present, consisting of boys and girls, were examined by Mr. Van Praagh, their teacher, and during the process, which lasted more than an hour, the whole company manifested the deepest interest and sympathy. The word "examination" as ordinarily used, must lose most of its meaning when applied to the deaf and dumb, who can neither hear questions put nor answer back. But the way in which they imitated vocal sounds and gave answers by writing on a board to questions in arithmetic, geography, and history was quite wonderful. For instance, to the question, "How much are 9 times 9?" a distinct oral and written answer was given—"81," and to "How many months in the year?" "12" was as distinctly replied. "St. Petersburg" as the capital of Russia, and "Neva" as the river it is built upon; "Copenhagen" as the capital of Denmark; "Berlin" as the capital of Germany; "Paris" as the capital of France; "wine and brandy" as products of France; the "Tiber" as a river of Italy; "Corsica," "Napoleon III," "St. Helena," "Atlantic," the years of the Queen's reign, "Shakspeare," "Macaulay," "Tennyson," and other words were pronounced in such a way as to be unmistakable. Passing events even come within the scope of their intellect, for a lad who was asked what the recent fire in Dublin burned, answered "Whisky." The reader must bear in mind that these wonderful feats, for such they must be called, must be the results principally of the sense of sight, and, perhaps, to some extent, of the sense of touch, though, as far as we could see, Mr. Van Praagh used no organ little or not at all. The writing on the board was done with expedition, and with an evident sense of pleasure on the little writers' countenances.

The thirty-second anniversary festival of the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institution took place, yesterday week, at the London Tavern—Mr. Robert Broadwater, the Master of the Fruiterers' Company, in the chair. The chairman made an eloquent appeal on behalf of the institution, and was subsequently enabled to announce that subscriptions amounting to nearly £650 had been received, which included sums of twenty guineas from the Drapers' Company and ten guineas each from Baron Rothschild and Sir T. Laurence.

Madame Christine Nilsson's concert at St. James's Hall, in aid of the Westminster Training School and Home for Nurses, was, we are informed, even more successful than the one she gave last year. Upwards of £960 was realised for the fund.

Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., presided over the examination and distribution of prizes at the Warehousesmen and Clerks' Schools, Caterham, last Saturday.

A meeting of cabmen and their wives and children, in connection with the fourth anniversary of the mission, took place in the Cabmen's Mission-Hall, on Monday night, under the presidency of Mr. S. Morley, M.P. A debt of £90 still exists upon the building.

Count Beust, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, presided, on Tuesday, at the festival of the German Benevolent Society, the usefulness of which he commended. The sum subscribed at the dinner was about £700.

Prizes gained by pupils of the Greycoat School for Girls were distributed, on Wednesday, at the Hospital, in Westminster, by the Duke of Buccleuch, and among those who addressed the company present at the ceremony were Lord Hatherley, Lord Napier and Ettrick, Lord Malon, Dean Stanley, and Professor Morley. This school has worked successfully under the new scheme, the number of scholars having increased from twenty-eight to one hundred.

The seventy-seventh anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, at Wood-green, was celebrated, on Wednesday evening, at the Alexandra Palace. There were about 800 brethren and ladies present. The Earl of Carnarvon presided, and he was supported by Lord Shrewsbury and most of the grand officers. Brother Blinckes announced the result of the lists sent in from various parts of the kingdom, the total amount rising to the munificent sum of £12,700, with other lists still to come in.

The subscribers and friends of the Chelsea Hospital for Women met, on Wednesday, in the London Tavern—Lord Wharncliffe in the chair—to hear the annual report, which was of a favourable nature. A considerable number of the company then adjourned to luncheon, after which a satisfactory addition to the funds of the institution was announced.

It is stated that 2101 subscribers of the Royal Medical Benevolent College have signed a memorial to the council in favour of abolishing the system of voting and canvassing for the benefit of the institution. As far as is known, only 255 subscribers take a different view and wish the present system to be continued. A similar memorial has been sent to the board of management of the Governesses' Benevolent Institution, and it has been almost equally well supported.

The annual meeting of the Manx Legislature was held in the early part of this week, and was attended by the Duke of Sutherland and a distinguished party, who were the guests of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Island.

In the memoir of Sir Julius Vogel, K.C.M.G., the Prime Minister of New Zealand, with his portrait engraved for last week's paper, it was stated that he had, during his recent sojourn in London, besides obtaining the loan of four millions sterling and arranging for the construction of a submarine telegraph from New South Wales to New Zealand, made a new contract for the Pacific mail service. But this last-mentioned piece of business has been performed by Mr. Thomas Russell, the special agent of the New Zealand Government for that purpose, jointly with Sir Daniel Cooper, on behalf of the New South Wales Government. The contract, which is for eight years, has been taken by the Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company of New York, jointly with Messrs. Elder and Co., ship-builders, of Glasgow, and Mr. Duncan Macgregor, M.P., shipowner, of Leith. The service, to begin in November, will be performed by large steam-ships of 3000 tons burden, running eleven knots an hour, from Sydney and Auckland or Wellington to San Francisco, with excellent passenger accommodation. This will suit New Zealand traffic and travelling far better than the Brindisi route down the Red Sea and by the Point de Galle.

THE FLOODS IN FRANCE

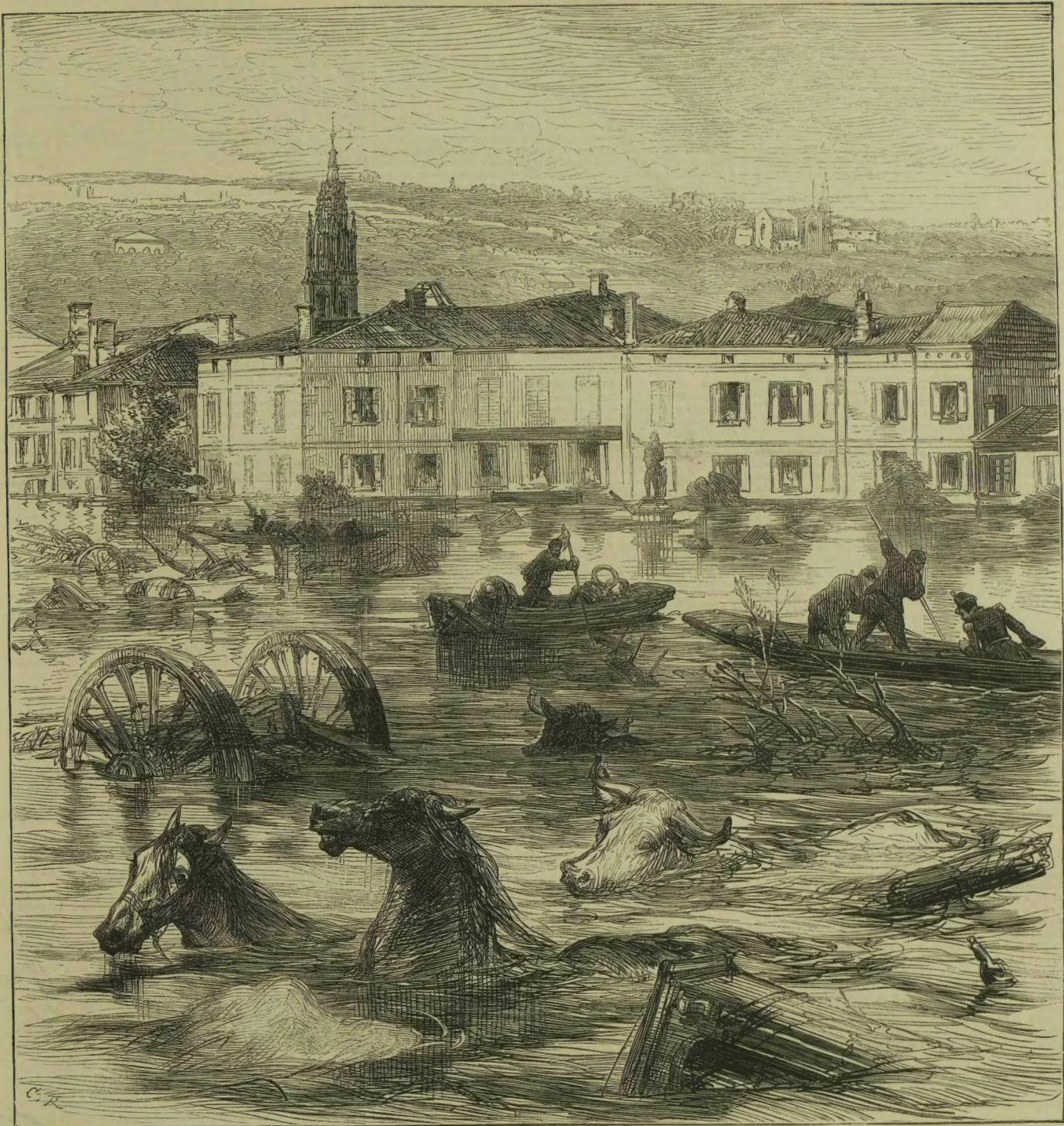


INUNDATION OF THE RAILWAY: MAIL-VAN DRAWN BY HAND.



RUINED HOUSES IN THE RUE ST. NICOLAS, TOULOUSE.

THE FLOODS IN FRANCE



THE PLACE ST. ANTOINE, AGEN.



REMOVING THE HOSPITAL PATIENTS FROM THE HOTEL DIEU, TOULOUSE.



THE PONT NEUF, CONNECTING TOULOUSE WITH THE FAUBOURG ST. CYPRÉEN.

## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, July 8.

Marshal MacMahon returned on Monday from his tour through the inundated districts. He estimates the number of deaths at 700; and, as the system of registering all the inhabitants of a town or village is rather accurately carried out, there is no doubt that these figures are fairly correct. As to the loss of property, however, great divergence of opinion seems to prevail, if one may judge by the widely-varying estimates received from the devastated departments. Some of them give the total amount of damage as 500,000,000 francs; but this seems hardly credible, though the fact that about 50,000 people are homeless and out of employment seems to be substantiated. The subscriptions still continue to pour in. The Paris Municipal Council has voted 200,000 francs, and amongst individual members may be mentioned 50,000 francs from M. Cremieux, the Republican deputy, 20,000 francs from the Pope, sent through the *Univers*, with many expressions of sympathy, and 60,000 francs from the ex-Empress Eugénie. It is gratifying to find that the heavy rain which has been falling throughout the country to an extent that began to cause serious apprehensions for the harvest at length seems to have abated.

There can hardly be said to be any political news of interest. A wild rumour that M. de Gouïard Biron, the Ambassador at Berlin, was to be recalled at the request of the Court to which he is accredited, was set afloat at the beginning of the week with a view of influencing the Bourse. The result was a panic on a small scale, and a heavy fall in many of the leading securities. The members of the Left are working heart and soul to bring about dissolution. At an important meeting held on Friday, under the presidency of M. Laboulaye, some 300 members pledged themselves to facilitate the transaction of public business in the Assembly by refraining from long speeches and trivial amendments. They think that if the other parties will meet them in a similar spirit all the matters to be considered can be got through by the middle of August, and they mean to bring forward a motion fixing the general elections for November. In the Assembly itself, the railway bills having been at length disposed of, that relating to the Public Powers came on for discussion a second time yesterday. The fourteen clauses were voted, very few speeches being made. M. Marion, a Radical, having suggested that the two Chambers should sit permanently, in order to prevent the possibility of a coup d'état, M. Buffet replied at length, to the effect that coup d'état could hardly be prevented by such a measure, and that permanent Assemblies were opposed both to the national feeling and the Constitution.

The main topic of conversation just now, as anyone who is at all acquainted with the Parisians could easily guess, is neither the inundations nor the dissolution, but simply two of those disgraceful squabbles between public men which the French system of journalism so persistently fosters. M. Gambetta and M. Granier de Cassagnac have been for some time past attacking each other in the columns of the *République Française* and the *Presse* respectively. The latter, on Sunday, published a letter asking the ex-Dictator if he would accept a challenge. M. Gambetta replied in the columns of his paper that his life was of too much importance to France and the Republic for him to risk it in the manner suggested. Whereupon M. de Cassagnac informed him and the world at large that at the first opportunity he would kick him; and since then all the loungers on the Boulevards have been dying to see this threat carried out. M. Villemessant, of the *Figaro*, may be grateful to MM. Gambetta and Cassagnac, since their quarrel has partly served to divert attention from one in which he has been engaged with M. J. Debrouze, of the *Presse*, who has charged him with attempting to extort money by intimidation and given him the lie direct. M. Villemessant does not seem inclined to show fight; but one of his subordinates, M. A. Périvier, crossed the Belgian frontier in his cause the other day, and received a couple of sword-thrusts from M. Jules Rosat, a member of the staff of the *Presse*.

I mentioned last week that the birthday of Hoche had been celebrated by the Republicans at Versailles, and on Sunday a number of the same party met to do honour to the natal day of Garibaldi in Paris. On the former occasion M. Gambetta was the hero of the day, but at the latter the post of honour was occupied by the veteran Republican Louis Blanc, supported by MM. Madier de Montjau, Barodet, and others. In the course of his speech he complained that the Republic was only a Republic in name—"a signboard stuck up in front of a Monarchical building," and made responsible for abuses due to Monarchical institutions. This is regarded as an attack on M. Gambetta, and will widen the breach between the Radical and Moderate Republicans.

The international exhibition of objects connected with sea and fresh water fisheries will open at the Palais de l'Industrie on Saturday next, the 10th inst.

## SPAIN.

The Committee of nine members which was appointed to draw up the bases of the new Spanish Constitution has concluded its labours. The Legislature is to consist of two Chambers, a Senate, and a Chamber of Deputies. The magistracy are declared irremovable, and religious liberty is to exist throughout Spain.

Conflicting rumours, as usual, are published regarding the Carlist war. From St. Sebastian we are told that steamers have disembarked there several heavy guns and a large quantity of war material to arm the detached forts at Renteria, and that the Carlists have erected a fresh battery at Santigordi against St. Sebastian. The French gunboat *Oriflamme* has entered the port in order to protect French subjects if necessary. The military governor of St. Sebastian has imposed a fine upon the municipality of the town for refusing to co-operate in the execution of the orders of the Government. The civil governor and the members of the municipality have consequently resigned their posts. The Spanish frigate *Vittoria* has returned to complete the destruction of the Carlist forts. The bombardment of Hernani continues. A Madrid telegram says that Dorregas, at the head of fourteen battalions, comprising nearly all the Carlist forces in Aragon and Valencia, is retreating to the neighbourhood of Sce do Urgel, as he is unable to maintain his position in a flat country without cavalry. It is also stated that a body of Carlists are bombarding La Junquera, in Catalonia.

According to official advices received at Madrid, the Government troops have defeated the insurgent bands in Havannah, and seventy-five of the rebels have been killed, and all the leaders who fell into the hands of the troops shot.

## ITALY.

A Royal decree has been issued proroguing the session of the Parliament.

A notification has been received from the Italian Government containing a "denunciation" of the treaty of commerce and navigation between Great Britain and Italy of Aug. 6 1863. The treaty will therefore expire on June 26 next year.

The Italian Minister at Berlin has given notice, in the name of his Government, of withdrawal from the treaty of commerce of Dec. 31, 1863, between the Zollverein and Italy, and from the navigation convention of Oct. 14, 1867, between Italy and the North German Confederation.

The Ministerial Commission appointed to consider whether Italy could take part in the International Exhibition at Philadelphia has decided that she cannot do so on account of the want of the necessary funds.

## GERMANY.

The Emperor William arrived, with his suite, at Carlsruhe on Wednesday, and was present, next day, at the fêtes given to celebrate the majority of the hereditary Grand Duke of Baden. It is expected that the Emperor will return to Berlin on Aug. 10. His Majesty will then successively take part in several public ceremonies in different places, and, after having made a short stay in Baden-Baden, will probably pay a visit to Italy in October.

The torchlight procession which took place at Düsseldorf on the night of the 2nd inst., in honour of Dr. Falk, the Minister of Public Worship, was a magnificent spectacle. Six thousand persons took part, and the Minister was greeted with enthusiastic cheers. Next day he drove to Essen and received deputations from the towns of Bielefeld, Bochum, Kettwig, Münster, Steele, Königsteile, Werden, and Witten, all of which assured his Excellency of their approval of the ecclesiastical policy pursued by the Prussian Government. Dr. Falk, on arriving last Tuesday at Mühlheim, the centre of the important commercial district which he represents, was presented with an address of confidence bearing 12,000 signatures, by a deputation of his constituents.

## AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

The funeral of the Emperor Ferdinand took place at Vienna, on Tuesday, in presence of the whole Imperial Court, the Crown Prince of Germany and Italy, the Czarewitsch and other foreign Princes, representatives of the diplomatic body, all the Ministers, many public dignitaries, the Austrian cardinals, bishops, and prelates, and a large body of clergy.

## RUSSIA.

The Emperor honoured with his presence a fête given on the 2nd inst. by the Governor-General of Warsaw, after a display of evolutions by all the cavalry and artillery of the garrison.

The Czarevna and her children have left Tsarskoë-Selo for the summer residence of Peterhoff.

The Minister of Education has issued a circular communication to his Provincial subordinates, enjoining them to watch and repress the atheistic and socialistic agitation going on in the Universities and superior schools. The Minister of Justice, whom he quotes, is of opinion that this agitation, which has infected other classes of society, could never have attained the height it has, were it not that the Russian public are either indifferent to or else sympathise with it. These official admissions have created a stir at St. Petersburg.

## GREECE.

M. Tricoupis, the Foreign Minister, has addressed a circular to the representatives of Greece abroad declaring the recent reports as to the unsatisfactory state of the kingdom to be untrue, and directing inquiries to be made with a view to trace the origin of these rumours.

## AMERICA.

Monday was observed as a holiday throughout the States in celebration of the anniversary of American Independence.

The jury in the Beecher case have been discharged, unable to agree. It is said nine were for Mr. Beecher and three for Mr. Tilton.

## INDIA.

It is now announced that the King of Burnah has refused to allow British troops to pass through his territory in case of need, and that the Indian Government is in communication with the India Office relative to the decision which the King's determination may render necessary. Sir Douglas Forsyth left Rangoon for Calcutta yesterday week, and will proceed thence to Simla immediately to report the result of his mission.

## CHINA.

A special commissioner has been dispatched by the Government to Yunnan to inquire into the circumstances of the murder of Lieutenant Margary. Some native soldiers have been punished for the outrage at Chin-Kiang; but further attacks on foreigners have been committed at Pekin.

## INDIA.

We learn from Constantinople that an Imperial irâde has been sent to the Khedive sanctioning the annexation to Egypt of the port of Zeyha, on the Gulf of Aden.

Her Majesty's ships Hercules, Devastation, Pallas, and Rapid, comprising the British Mediterranean squadron, left Venice on Tuesday evening, and arrived at Trieste on Wednesday afternoon.

An expedition, under the direction of the American Palestine Exploration Society, left New York on June 19 in the Celtic. The object of their explorations (the Tribune says) is to prepare a map and investigate the antiquities of the region east of the Jordan, as the country on the west of that river is now being explored by English societies. The party consisted of Colonel J. C. Lane, of Brooklyn, commanding the expedition, J. Harvey Treat of Lawrence, Mass., and Professor Selah Merrill, of Andover, Mass., a distinguished Oriental linguist and archaeologist. They will be joined in Europe by Rudolph Meyer, who has preceded the party to make arrangements. They took with them a large supply of engineering instruments of American make, and, to avoid jarring them, the entire journey to Beyrouth will be made by water. The expedition will remain two years in Palestine.

From the Cape of Good Hope we have the text of the minute of the Cabinet, in reply to the despatch of Lord Carnarvon, proposing a conference of the South African colonies and States with a view to the establishment of a confederation. The Ministers express the opinion that such a conference would, under present circumstances, be of no utility. They consider it most undesirable also that the colony should be represented as proposed in the despatch. Moreover, they think that the constitution of the conference should be left to the free action and judgment of the colony. Feeling assured that nothing will be gained by any action which may now be taken, they do not feel in a position to advise in the matter, beyond agreeing to the suggestion that copies of Lord Carnarvon's despatch be presented to Parliament, together with copies of their minute. The Cape Argus congratulates the Cape Government on the independent position it has taken up, and says that the officials in Downing-street seem to be quite ignorant of the real position of affairs in South Africa. The Legislative Assembly has approved this minute of the Ministry after a division of 32 to 29.—The House of Assembly at Cape Town, on July 3, unanimously resolved to annex about two thirds of the territories heretofore considered independent of British rule lying between the Kei and Natal. The tract of land thus to be brought under colonial rule has a population of about 140,000 Kaffirs. It is known as No Man's Land and Fingoland.

The American rifle team have gathered fresh laurels. Colonel Gildersleeve, captain of the team, on Wednesday won the cup presented by the mayor and citizens of Belfast, after shooting off a double tie with J. S. Lee, of Belfast. There were twenty-four competitors. The cup presented by Lloyd's will be shot for at Wimbledon on Saturday, the 17th, by an American eight and an eight of the United Kingdom.

## THE VOLUNTEERS.

There will be Divine service to-morrow (Sunday) in the bell-tent, Wimbledon, previous to the beginning of the shooting on Monday next.

Last Saturday the Duke of Cambridge inspected the London Rifle Brigade, of which he is honorary colonel. The brigade was under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Hayter, M.P.; and the other field officers present were Majors Haywood and Hope and Captain Evans. The field state showed fully a strength of 500 rank and file, including the company of cadets. At the close of the inspection his Royal Highness addressed the officers and men, and expressed himself highly satisfied with the steady improvement which was taking place in the brigade.

On the same evening the London Irish Rifles underwent their annual official inspection in Hyde Park. The regiment mustered 830 rank and file and 100 recruits, and was formed into a large-sized battalion of twelve companies. Colonel Ward was in command, assisted by Majors Purcell and Farnival, and Captain and Adjutant Daubeney, and the inspecting officer, who was received with the usual salute on his arrival on the ground, was Colonel Michael Bruce, of the Grenadier Guards. The inspection lasted about two hours, and was in every respect satisfactory.

The City of London Engineers were inspected in battalion drill the same evening at Tufnell Park, Holloway, and subsequently in engineering, by Colonel Chesney, Commanding Engineer, Home district, at the head-quarters, Colebrooke-row, Islington.

The 2nd Tower Hamlets Volunteer Engineers were presented the same day with colours by Mrs. Croll, the wife of Colonel Angus Croll, honorary Colonel of the corps, at Granary House, his seat, near Roehampton. All the officers of the corps, numbering about 400, were entertained in a marquee after the ceremony; and addresses were delivered by Colonel Croll, the Right Hon. S. Cave, Lieutenant-Colonel Comyn (the commandant of the regiment), and others of the numerous company of guests who attended the ceremony and witnessed the manoeuvring of the regiment which followed the presentation.

The annual prize-meeting of the 38th Middlesex (Artists) Rifles was brought to a conclusion on Thursday week, having extended over three days. The principal winner was Private Bridgeman, who occupied the first place in three out of four competitions, winning the grand challenge cup, the commanding officer's cup, and a money prize of £10; the second aggregate was taken by Private Joy; and Private H. R. Vincent was successful in the contest for the Adjutant's cup. Private Simmons, R. W. Shephard, and F. Wyon also won prizes. Private Bouthier won the "Black Jack" challenge cup for the second time in succession; and B Company were the victors in the match for company teams, beating the A Company by three points.

The Aberdeen Wapinschaw took place last week. Some magnificent shooting was made, one of the most notable features being the score of Private E. Jamieson, of Rothes, who made fourteen bull's-eyes in succession at 200 yards, seven for the city brooch and seven for the ladies' gold cross. The following are the principal winners of the meeting:—First stage Queen's prize, Private James Gray, Keigh; second stage, Sergeant Stewart, Glenlivet. Battalion challenge cup, 1st N. Administrative Battalion, Aberdeenshire; Aberdeenshire bugle, 5th B.R.V.; Private Brown, of Inverurie, taking the first individual prize; Corporation medal, 4th K.A.V. city brooch, Private Jamieson, Rothes; Craigievar cup, Private Gray, Keigh; Members' prizes, Private Mackay, Keigh; county brooch, Private Gray, Keigh; Corporation prize, Sergeant Taylor, Methie; aggregate prizes, Sergeant Scott, New Pitsligo, Aberdeenshire badge and £10.

On Monday week, at Altear, the 1 Company, 1st L.R.V., beat the 15th L.R.V. by 82 points in a match, ten men a side, scoring 620 against 538, Wimbledon conditions 1874. At the same range on Tuesday, the Morning Challenge Cup was won by Sergeant Speers, 1st L.R.V., with 85 points, Wimbledon 1875 targets and conditions. On Wednesday Sergeant Speers was again successful in the competition of F Company shooting club with 59 points, five shots at Queen's ranges; and a match between 1 Company, 1st L.R.V., and No. 5 Company, 5th L.R.V., resulted in a victory for the latter by two points, they making 706 against 704 of their antagonists, ten men a side, Queen's ranges and conditions.

A match was fired at Rainham, on Wednesday week, between teams of twenty men from the London Rifle Brigade and the South London Rifle Club, recently formed at Peckham. The following was the result:—London Rifle Brigade, 1339 points; South London Club, 1279 points. The London Rifles were therefore the winners by 60 points.

A triangular match was fired on Thursday week, at Wormwood Scrubs, between the 5th and 6th Companies of the 38th Middlesex Rifles and the Acton Company of the South Middlesex. The 6th Company were the winners by a majority of 19 points over the 5th Company, and 80 points over the South Middlesex.

Thursday week the Manchester Rifle Club held their fourth and final competition, when Private Hargreaves was the highest scorer; the winner, however, of the highest aggregate for the season is Private Moffat.

The annual prize meeting of the 3rd Administrative Battalion Cheshire Rifle Volunteers took place last week, at the ranges near Ashley. The following were the principal winners:—Corporal Arden and Colour-Sergeant Smith. The first prize for independent and volley firing was won by the 15th Cheshire.

The Flintshire Rifle Volunteers enjoyed camp life at Rhyl for a few days. The volunteers numbered between 500 and 600 men. The staff officers were Lieutenant-Colonel Cooke, Major Casson, Captain and Adjutant Priestley, Dr. Trubshaw, and Quartermaster Freakley. There were about twenty company officers besides. The men went through battalion drill on three days, and had a church parade on Sunday week. Next day they were inspected by Colonel Cooper, commanding the 23rd dépôt at Wrexham, who spoke very highly of the efficiency of the corps and the ability of the officers.

The American rifle team have gathered fresh laurels. Colonel Gildersleeve, captain of the team, on Wednesday won the cup presented by the mayor and citizens of Belfast, after shooting off a double tie with J. S. Lee, of Belfast. There were twenty-four competitors. The cup presented by Lloyd's will be shot for at Wimbledon on Saturday, the 17th, by an American eight and an eight of the United Kingdom.

Lord Clarence Paget will succeed Admiral Sir Henry Keppell as Commander-in-Chief at Plymouth in October next.

A Conservative demonstration took place on Thursday week, at the seat of Mr. J. E. Dorington, near Stroud. Ten thousand people were present. There was a dinner in the evening, at which a silver service was presented to Mr. George Holloway, a prominent local Conservative, who has been an unsuccessful candidate for the representation of the borough.

## THE CHURCH.

## PREFEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Carew, W. H.; Curate of Christ Church, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells.  
 Clayton, L.; Vicar of St. Margaret's, Leicester.  
 Crookshank, Gerard A.; Vicar of Catton, Norfolk.  
 Field, Arthur T.; to Trinity Episcopal Chapel, Buxton.  
 Gisland, Alfred F.; Curate of St. Mark's, New Brompton, Chatham.  
 Hastings, John Parsons; Rector of Marthay.  
 Johnson, W. G.; Curator of the Library of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Great Britain.  
 Jones, W. H.; Curate of Holy Trinity, Twickenham.  
 Kinder, H.; Vicar of Kirby Bedon, Norfolk.  
 Long, F. E.; Rector of Woodton, Norfolk.  
 Moberly, Edward Hugh; Minor Canon in Salisbury Cathedral.  
 Molony, John W. H.; Honorary Canon in Ely Cathedral.  
 Puxley, H. B. L.; Rector of Great Cawthorpe, Huntingdonshire.  
 Rowland, Adam; Curate of Llangrange, Glamorganshire.  
 Sanders, H.; Archdeacon of Exeter.  
 Selwyn, William; Domestic Chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield.—*Guardian.*

On Friday morning, last week, the spire of St. Mary's Church at Birkenhead was struck by lightning, and the top shattered.

The Rev. H. Sanders, Rector of Sowton, and one of the prebendaries of Exeter Cathedral, has been appointed Archdeacon of Exeter, in the room of the late Archdeacon Freeman.

The organ of Great Yarmouth parish church, which has long been one of the largest in England, was opened on Tuesday, after extensive enlargements and alterations.

The Bishop of Ripon has given his consent to the division of his large see by the creation of a bishopric of Halifax, and expresses a hearty desire to see the scheme carried out.

The Rev. W. D. MacLagan has received from the City Churches Fund, through the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the large sum of £4,000 towards the completion of the new parish church of St. Mary, Newington.

The rules and orders of the Court created under the Public Worship Regulation Act have been issued. The document contains long tables of the fees chargeable in connection with the working of the Act.

The Church of St. John Baptist, Hawthorn Bank, which has been built and provided with a vicarage, schools, and endowment, at a cost of £2,000, by the munificence of Miss Johnson, of Fairfax House, Spalding, was consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln on the 24th ult.

The Minor Canonry in Salisbury Cathedral, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Henry William Pullen, Chaplain of the Alert in the Arctic expedition, has been filled up by the appointment of the Rev. Edward Hugh Moberly, late Curate of St. Thomas's, Salisbury, and son of the Bishop of Salisbury.

At St. James's, Marylebone, on Sunday, the Rev. H. R. Hawkes gave an address on Sunday observance, and, deprecating the idea that Sunday was meant to be devoted exclusively to religious pursuits, strongly recommended the opening of museums, exhibitions, and other places of secular instruction on that day, after the hours of morning service.

The Mayor and Municipal Council of Versailles have voted the sum necessary to repair the English Protestant church of that town, "not wishing," as the Mayor stated in his letter on the subject, "to miss such an opportunity of showing that we have not forgotten the assistance, as kindly as it was efficacious, given to us by the English people in the dark days through which our country has had to pass."

Several members of the Christ Church choir and congregation at Cheltenham have presented Mr. J. O. Smith with a tea and coffee service, and a purse of fifty sovereigns, in acknowledgment of his efficient performance of his duties as an organist for twenty-seven years. There was another testimonial from the professional members of Christ Church choir and other musical friends resident in the town, which consisted of a splendid dining-room clock and barometer in black marble, with a gilt plate bearing a suitable inscription.

At the conclusion of a sermon at St. Alban's, Holborn, on Sunday, the Rev. Mr. Stanton made a brief reference to the existing state of affairs in that church, and said that he did not wish the congregation to go to St. Vedast's; but, if they went there and found it full, he reminded them that there was a celebration at St. Paul's Cathedral. About a third of the congregation went by different routes, and not in processional order, to St. Vedast's, where there was not standing-room even in the passages. There were few communicants, and no elevation of the paten or chalice.

At a meeting of the Exeter Cathedral Restoration Fund, on Thursday week, it was stated that £1208 had been subscribed to meet the costs in defending the reredos in the law courts. The committee had received promises of £15,626, including £5000 given by the late Mr. Gibbs in consequence of the decision in the reredos case. The Dean said the munificent response made to the appeal had relieved the Chapter from the possible inconvenience of a debt being left on the cathedral. He expressed gratitude for the assistance and sympathy received respecting the reredos litigation, and justified the course taken in prosecuting the case to the highest court. The works are progressing as rapidly as possible.

In the retired rural parish of Hillesden, Bucks, there is a Perpendicular church, of which Sir G. G. Scott, R.A., when giving his report upon it with a view to its restoration, wrote:—"While it is one of the most exquisite of the smaller productions of those later days of Mediæval architecture to which we owe the chapel of King's College at Cambridge, St. George's Chapel at Windsor, and that of Henry VII. of Westminster, it is to myself peculiarly dear, as having been the delight of my youth, and its study having led me to devote my life to the art of which it is so charming an example. This beautiful church has been thoroughly restored, at a cost of about £2200, of which the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, the patrons, have contributed £500; Mr. G. Morrison, the principal landowner, £500; Sir G. Scott, R.A., for the restoration of the groined roof and the pinnacles of the porch, £70, besides giving his services for the whole work gratuitously; Mr. J. G. Hubbard, M.P., 100; the Rev. Robert Holt, Vicar, £100; the farmers of the parish, £200; Mrs. Neyler, of Cheltenham, £20, in addition to a stained glass window by Burlison and Grylls, of London, £100; with many smaller contributions, leaving a debt of some £200 for the work already done.

In the Lower House of Convocation, yesterday week, the members resumed the discussion of the resolutions on the report of the committee respecting the rubrics; and, the debate having been brought to a close, it was resolved to send the report, together with the resolutions, to the Upper House. On Monday, in the Upper House of Convocation, several memorials were presented against the legalising of the "eastward position," and the wearing of eucharistic vestments in the celebration of the holy communion. The Archbishop of Canterbury mentioned that amongst the petitions intrusted to him for presentation to the Upper House against the introduction of novel ceremonies and vestures into the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England was one of such enormous bulk that it would require several persons to carry it. A discussion took place in the

Upper House, on Tuesday, upon the action of the Lower House with regard to the questions affecting the eastward position and the use of eucharistic vestments. There was a general concurrence of opinion in the terms of a resolution moved by the Bishop of London, affirming that it was not desirable to legislate on these subjects now, and ultimately this was carried without a dissentient. On Wednesday the Upper House officially communicated to the Lower House their resolution not to propose legislation at present on disputed ritual questions; and in the Lower House the debate on the rubrics was continued. The chief topic of debate was the question of non-communicating attendance, and an optional rubric was adopted allowing a pause before the offertory.—On Thursday, the House having proceeded to consider the matter of the revision of the rubrics, the Archdeacon of Colchester moved that the rubrics be referred back to the committee for further consideration. After some discussion, this was adopted by 25 to 19.

## THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The following is a list of the candidates who have passed the recent M.A. examination at London University:—Branch I.—Classics: Edwin Johnson, New College. Branch III.—Logic and Moral Philosophy, Political Philosophy, History of Philosophy, and Political Economy: Henry Arthur Smith, private study; John Henry Birchenough, University College and private study, and Frederick Stock, University College, equal; John Scott Lidgett, University College; James Fison, University College; Stephen Edwards, private study.

The speech-day at Harrow, on Thursday week, was well attended, Earl Fortescue and the Right Hon. Montague Bernard attending on the part of the governors, and the visitors including the Duchess of Abercorn, Lord Houghton, Lord Crewe, the Bishop of Melbourne, Dr. Vaughan, and many other persons of distinction. Lord Houghton acknowledged that a considerable modification in his opinions respecting public school administration had taken place, owing to the experience he had gained since his son had been entered at Harrow, where he appeared amongst the winners of prizes.

At Durham the Van Mildert scholarship (a theological scholarship of £50 open to graduates) has been awarded to Mr. W. Hooper, Hatfield Hall.

At a meeting of the governors of Wellington College, last week, at which the Prince of Wales presided, Colonel the Hon. W. P. Talbot was elected vice-president, in the room of the Duke of Wellington, resigned.

At Clifton College the following have been elected to scholarships:—For Classics—Cannan, Perrin, Fox, Gawston, Pyne, Cookson, Vidal, and Jose. For Mathematics—Marris and R. S. Heath. For Classics and Mathematics—T. L. Heath and Cooper. For Natural Science and Mathematics—Wilberforce. Free Nominations—Tickell, Sickert, Marris, R. S. Heath, and T. L. Heath are from Caistor Grammar School (Rev. A. Bower).

Last Saturday the prizes to the pupils in the North London Collegiate School were presented by the Earl of Dartmouth.

The Rev. Dr. Morris, of King's College, has been elected head master of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Lord Aberdare, on Wednesday, laid the memorial-stone of a new proprietary school at Cardiff. The building, when completed, will accommodate 600 boys, to whom it is proposed to give a first-class collegiate education. The ceremony took place in the presence of the Mayor of Cardiff and the leading persons of the town and neighbourhood. It was followed by a luncheon given by the Mayor and Corporation.

The Earl of Chichester presided, on Wednesday, at the annual meeting of the subscribers to Bishop Otter's Memorial College, Chichester. The Rev. A. Espinasse (chaplain and secretary) read the annual report, which showed an increase in the number of students and in the work of the college. All the students who were prepared for the Queen's scholarship or admission examination passed. The committee had awarded exhibitions to three students. The reports of the lady principal and of the medical officer were most favourable. The enlargement of the college buildings had been begun, and it was hoped that the new portion of the building would be ready for the reception of students in February next. The additional wing, which connects the chapel with the main building, would enable forty students to be received into the college. The cost of the works would be £2500, towards which many donations had been given.

## METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Dr. Phené has been elected vice-president of the City of London College.

We are requested to announce that the Lady Mayoress's reception will be discontinued until further notice.

Invitations to the approaching grand civic banquet at the Guildhall have been accepted by the Syndic of Rone and the Mayor of Florence.

The Bank directors, at their weekly court on Thursday morning, reduced the rate of discount from 3½ per cent, at which it had stood since Feb. 18 last, to 3 per cent.

Lord Henry Lennox has granted permission to the London Swimming Club to erect a marquee during morning and evening bathing hours in Victoria Park.

On Monday the Four-in-Hand Club met in Hyde Park and drove to the Alexandra Palace. There were nineteen coaches, the Duke of Beaufort leading off and Lord Londeborough bringing up the rear.

Under the auspices of the Royal Horticultural Society, a show of vegetables has been opened at South Kensington. Some valuable prizes were offered by Messrs. Carter and Co., and the first was won by the Marquis of Exeter.

Among the subjects discussed at the weekly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, yesterday week, were a proposal to erect a statue to William Tyndale, the translator of the Bible; the position of the Gas Bill in Parliament; and a new apparatus for saving life from fire.

"Fairlop Friday" was celebrated, yesterday week, in the usual way, by an excursion to Woodford and back made by a number of persons in a ship mounted on wheels, the departure and return of which were witnessed by many thousand persons in the east of London.

A special appeal has been made to the ladies of the metropolis to enable the council of the Hospital Saturday movement to occupy each of the 500 positions in the public thoroughfares at which the home and police authorities have sanctioned collection-tables to be placed on Saturday, the 31st inst., so as to receive contributions from passers-by. Ladies willing to assist will oblige the council by forwarding their names and addresses to the council-rooms, 28, Leicester-square, W.C.

At the weekly meeting of the London School Board, on Wednesday, a report on the case of Mr. W. Hiscock, an officer of the board, who had been fined by a magistrate for ill-treating a boy, was read. It vindicated the conduct of the official in question, and was generally approved by the board.

The President and Vice-President of the Canada Club gave a dinner, on Wednesday evening, in honour of Lord Dufferin, the Governor-General of Canada, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. The president of the club, Mr. George T. Brooking, occupied the chair, and the vice-president, Mr. Charles Churchill, the vice-chair.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week was 84,593, of whom 32,661 were in workhouses, and 51,937 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding weeks in the years 1874, 1873, and 1872, these figures show a decrease of 9039, 16,213, and 20,401 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 334, of whom 219 were men, 99 women, and 25 children under sixteen.

A flower show was held, on Wednesday afternoon, in the ground at the rear of Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley-street, the exhibitors being exclusively composed of children who attend the Sunday and day schools in connection with the district. The flowers showed the careful training which they had undergone. The Duke of Westminster distributed the prizes to the fortunate exhibitors, and gave a brief address. Lord Shaftesbury bore testimony to the merit of such exhibitions. Many distinguished persons visited the show.

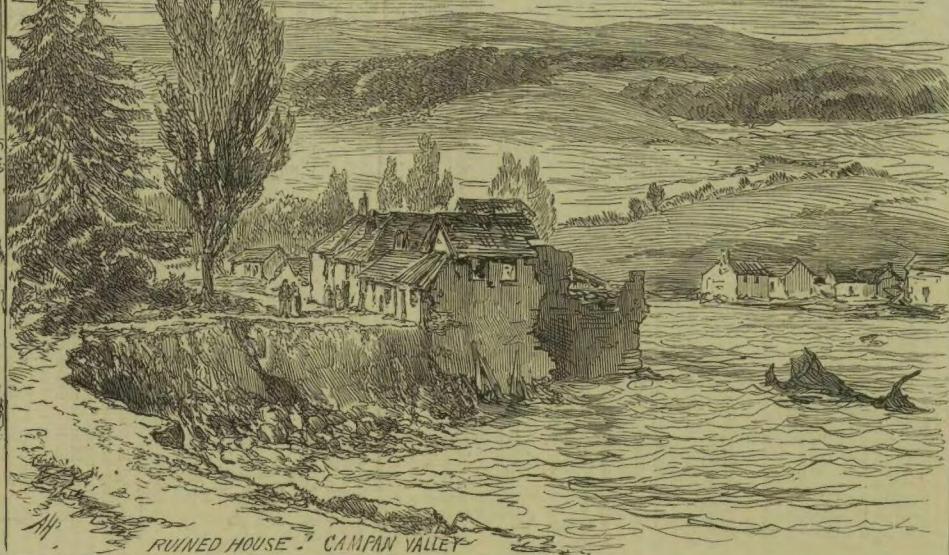
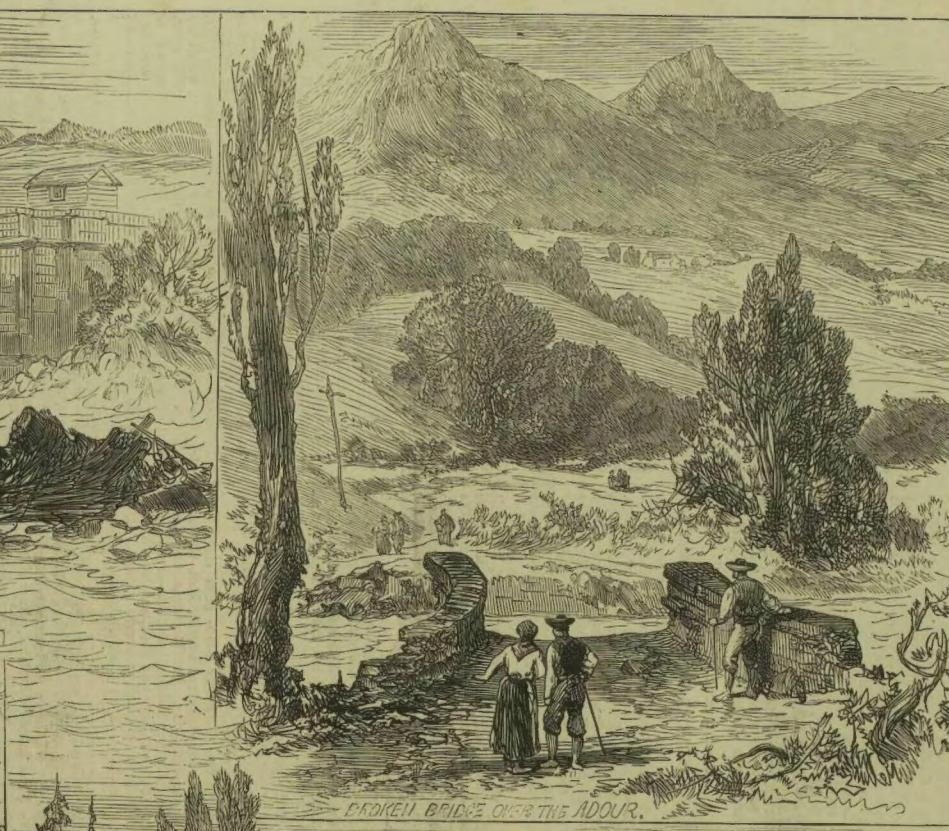
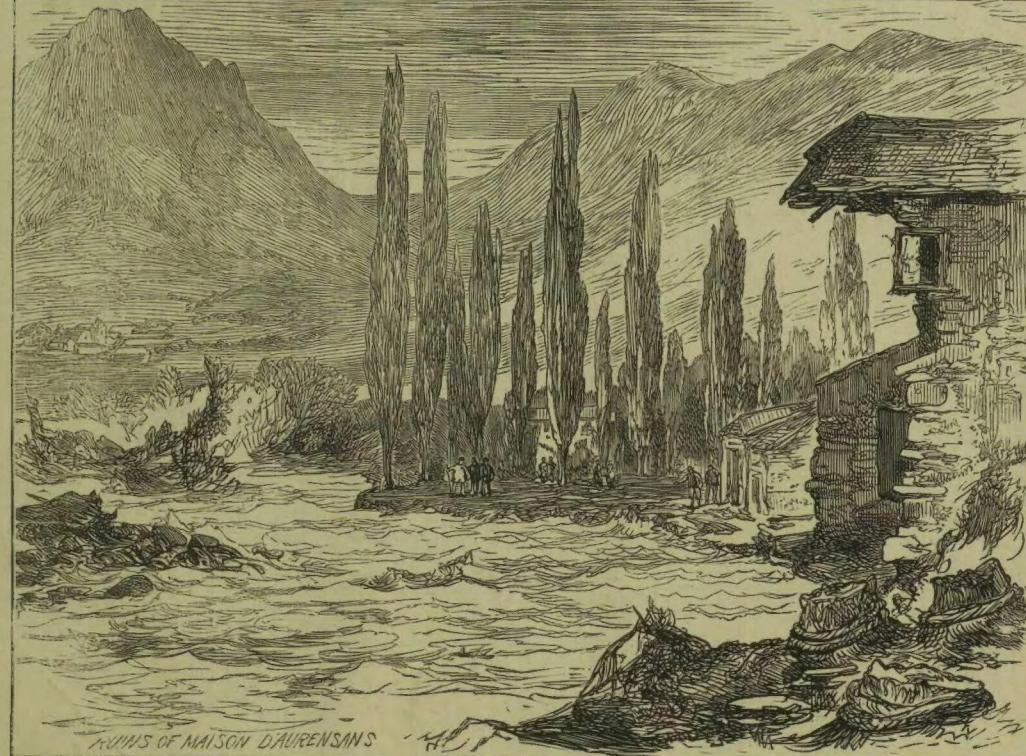
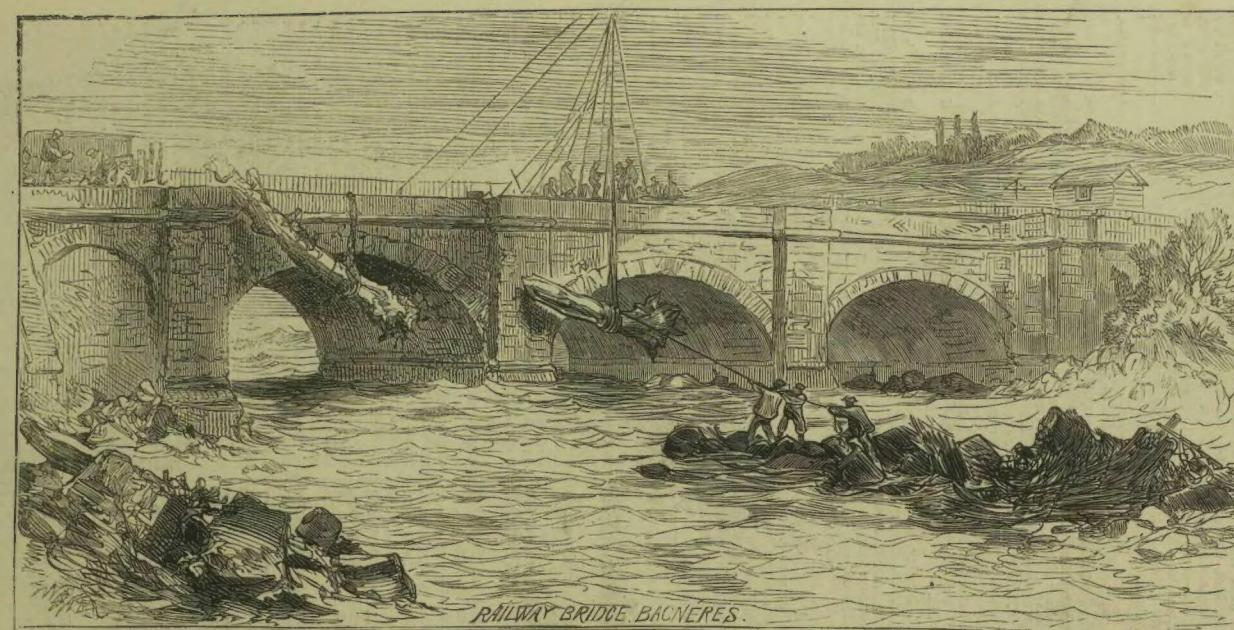
The National Temperance League held its annual fete at the Alexandra Palace on Tuesday, when the fineness of the weather combined with the varied programme of entertainments to attract many thousands of persons to the palace from all parts of the country.—The sixth annual session of the Grand Lodge of English Good Templars began, on Tuesday morning, at Hengler's Cirque, Regent-street. About 1500 members were present. The report reads give the number of members as 168,000 adults and 48,000 juveniles, showing a decrease of 40,000 adults and an increase of 23,000 juveniles. It declared that last year had been the best for temperance work in the history of the order.

The first of a set of floating swimming-baths was opened, on Tuesday, on the Thames, near the underground railway station at Charing-cross. It is 135 ft. long by 25 ft. wide, and the interior is very conveniently and neatly fitted up. The depth ranges from 3 ft. to 7 ft., and it is so constructed that there is a continual supply of filtered water, which runs in through the filters at the rate of 500 gallons per minute. The water from the Thames first runs into a large iron tank, and thence into numerous strong fine canvas bags, which act as filters. The water comes from the filters perfectly clear, and it is afterwards forced by steam power from the main filter or reservoir into the bath. There are convenient dressing-rooms on each side, and at the west end a well-decorated saloon intended for a lounge.

Sir George Biddell Airy, the Astronomer-Royal, was entertained, with other distinguished persons, by the Lord Mayor, at a banquet given at the Mansion House on Saturday night. His Lordship, in proposing the health of the guest of the evening, gave a brief outline of his career and public services, and referred to the fact of his having been presented with the freedom of the City. Sir George Airy returned thanks in an able speech, in which he pointed out the practical bearing of astronomy in navigation and other departments of public utility.—The Astronomer-Royal was entertained, on Tuesday night, by the Spectaclemakers' Company, whom he asked to do what they could to encourage the science of optics and the construction of optical instruments.

The directors of the London and Westminster Bank have resolved to declare a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent per annum on the paid-up capital of £2,000,000 for the half year ending June 30. In a statement which they have issued the directors say:—"The net profits for the six months, after making the usual appropriations and provision for ordinary bad and doubtful debts, amount to £232,000, of which the dividend absorbs £100,000; the balance of the above profit being carried to the rest, which would then amount to £1,187,000. In view of the exceptional losses and frauds during the half year, the directors have thought it prudent to transfer the sum of £500,000 from the rest to a special suspense account, which sum they consider more than sufficient to meet all contingencies. After the foregoing deduction the reserve will stand at £667,000."—The directors of the City Bank have resolved to declare a dividend at their half-yearly meeting, on the 20th inst., at the rate of 8 per cent per annum for the six months ending June 30, and to transfer £35,000 from the reserve fund for the purpose of meeting the exceptional losses incurred during the half year. The dividend at the corresponding date last year was at the rate of 10 per cent per annum.—The Union Bank of London and the London Joint-Stock Bank have declared dividends at the rate of 15 per cent per annum.—The dividend of the Alliance Bank is at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, and that of the National Discount Company is at the rate of 12 per cent per annum.

The Registrar-General's last weekly return shows an improvement in the health of the metropolis. Last week 2115 births and 1348 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 143 and the deaths 30 below the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. There were 29 deaths from measles, 1 from smallpox, 69 from scarlet fever, 7 from diphtheria, 54 from whooping-cough, 12 from different forms of fever, and 107 from diarrhoea; thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 279 deaths were referred, against 221 and 267 in the two preceding weeks. These 279 deaths were 20 below the corrected average number from the same diseases in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths from scarlet fever showed a further increase upon those returned in the two previous weeks, and exceeded the corrected average number by 30. The fatal cases of whooping-cough but slightly exceeded the average. The deaths referred to fever were 23 below the corrected average, and included 1 certified as typhus, 8 as enteric or typhoid, and 3 as simple continued fever. The fatal cases of diarrhoea, which in the three preceding weeks had been 31, 54, and 77, further rose last week to 107, including 87 infants under one year of age. In the corresponding week of the last three years the deaths from diarrhoea in London were 37, 22, and 86 respectively. The deaths of six infants were last week referred to infantile cholera or choleraic diarrhoea. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which in the two preceding weeks had been 194 and 193, declined last week to 159, and exceeded the corrected average number in the corresponding week of the last ten years by 2; 63 resulted from bronchitis and 62 from pneumonia. In Greater London 2598 births and 1582 deaths were registered, equal to annual rates of 32.2 and 19.6 per 1000 of the population. In the Outer Ring the death-rate from all causes and from the seven principal zymotic diseases was 16.0 and 2.7 per 1000 respectively, against 20.4 and 4.2 in Inner London.



THE FLOODS IN FRANCE: VALLEY OF CAMPAN, ON THE ADOUR, NEAR BAGNÈRES DE BIGORRE.



MEETING OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AT TAUNTON: GENERAL VIEW OF TAUNTON, FROM BELMONT.

## TAUNTON.

The vale of Taunton Dean, in the western part of Somerset, extends nearly ten miles between the Quantock Hills, to the north, which rise above the Bristol Channel coast in succession to the Exmoor ranges, and the Blackdown Hills, to the south, which separate East Devon from Somersetshire. This beautiful, green, pastoral, and fertile valley, takes its name from the small river Tone, which joins the Parrett, near the Isle of Athelney, and not far from Monmouth's fatal battlefield of Sedgemoor. The town which has been chosen for the annual meeting this week of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, is delightfully situated, a hundred and sixty miles from London, about fifty miles from Bristol, and thirty from Exeter. The view of Taunton which is shown in our engraving was sketched from the pleasure-grounds of Belmont, the residence of Mr. J. Marshall. Its prominent and central feature is the elegant tower of St. Mary's Church, 153 ft. high, a structure of singular lightness in form and richness of elaborate detail, one of the finest specimens of late Perpendicular Gothic. It was built in the reign of Henry VII. Several other churches, with their towers or spires, give an increased architectural effect to this view of the town. The remains of Taunton Castle now extant are situated on Taunton-green, in the middle of the town, and consist of a round tower, an embattled gateway; the great hall, 120 ft. long and 30 ft. wide, now forming a vestibule to the Assize Courts; and a fragment of the ancient west wing. The historical and antiquarian connections of Taunton are worth study. It was stoutly defended by Blake, and relieved by Fairfax, when besieged by the Royalists under Goring, in the Civil Wars. Forty years later it became the head-quarters of the Duke of Monmouth's rebellion, and was soon afterwards visited by Judge Jeffreys with that infamous "Bloody Assize," in which ninety-seven persons were hanged and 385 sentenced to transportation, besides many flogged. We believe the agriculturists of Taunton Vale, who used to rely too much upon its natural fertility, have of late years shown their readiness to adopt modern improvements. It is within our personal recollection to have seen oxen used for drawing ploughs of the rudest pattern in that country. Old Thomas Fuller wrote of it, as we read, two centuries ago, "The vale is so fruitful, to use their own phrase, with the sun and soil alone, that it needs no manuring." We doubt not, however, but the Royal Agricultural Society will meet with congenial local supporters. A view of the showyard, prepared for its exhibition of cattle and implements, is given with our view of Taunton.

## CIVIL LIST PENSIONS.

The following list of all pensions granted during the year ended June 20, 1875, and charged upon the Civil List (making a total of £1200 a year), has been issued:—

Mrs. Clarissa Hester Cattermole, £100, in consideration of the services rendered to art by her husband, the late George Cattermole, painter in water colours.

Mrs. Sarah Falcieri, widow of Battista Falcieri, the faithful servant of Lord Byron, £50.

Mr. John Turtle Wood, £200, in recognition of his labours at Ephesus, and the distinguished service rendered by him to science and history by the discovery of the site of the Temple of Diana and by the acquisition for the British Museum of a most valuable collection of sculptures, architectural marbles, and Greek and Roman inscriptions.

Bessie, Lady Helps, £200, in consideration of the long and able services rendered by her late husband, Sir Arthur Helps, D.C.L., K.C.B., as Clerk of her Majesty's Privy Council, and in recognition of his literary talents.

Mrs. Frances Eliza Kingsley, £200, as a tribute of respect to the memory of her late husband, the Rev. Charles Kingsley, Canon of Middleham, Westminster, a scholar, author, and divine.

Mrs. Anne Williams, £50, in recognition of the services rendered to Welsh literature by her late husband, the Rev. Morris Williams, Rector of Llanrhidian, Anglesey, better known as Nicander.

Mrs. Harriet Christiana Dwelly, £50, in consideration of the long and able services, extending over a period of forty years, of her late husband, John Holmes Dwelly, chief clerk in the department of the solicitor to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue.

Mrs. Francis Philip, £100, in consideration of the services rendered to art by her late husband, John Birnie Philip, the sculptor.

Mrs. C. L. G. MacLean, £100, in recognition of the distinguished services of her late husband, Colonel John MacLean, C.B., formerly Lieutenant-Governor of Natal, during the Kaffir wars of 1846-7 and in 1850-1-2, and in consideration of her destitute circumstances.

Elizabeth Helen, Lady Grant, £150, in recognition of the distinguished services rendered to his country by her late husband, General Sir James Hope Grant, G.C.B.

"An Inquirer" in the *Pall Mall Gazette* asks why the widow of Mr. Shirley Brooks has been passed over in the distribution of pensions granted to the widows of men of mark in literature and art? She is left, the writer says, very slenderly provided for, with two young boys to educate and place. The claims of her husband to the recognition contained in the Civil List are undoubted, and the claims of the widow follow.

New schools for 600 children were opened at Biggleswade on Thursday week by Mr. John Conquest, Chairman of the School Board. Mr. Arthur Peel, M.P., and Mr. Whitbread, M.P., were present.

While a passenger-train was travelling on the North British Railway, last Saturday, the drop-bar of a wagon broke when near the Rothley station, and the front guard's van, with five carriages, left the line. The guard and three passengers were killed, and twenty persons were injured.

Some correspondence between the Lord Chancellor and Dr. Hardwicke, the Middlesex Coroner, respecting the inquest on the late Sir Charles Lyell, has been published. His Lordship, while giving Dr. Hardwicke credit for having acted under a sense of duty, expresses a hope that similar proceedings to those in question will not take place in future.

Notice has been given by the Department of the Accountant-General of the Navy that the medals awarded to the naval and marine forces for services on the Gold Coast between June 9, 1873, and Feb. 4, 1874, are now in course of distribution. Application may be made personally or by letter addressed to the Accountant-General of the Navy and Comptroller of the Navy Pay, Admiralty, London, S.W. Petty officers and seamen, whether applying in person or by letter, will be required to produce their certificates of service. The following are the names of the ships the officers and crews of which are entitled to the medal—Active, Amethyst, Argus, Barracouta, Beacon, Bittern, Coquette, Decoy, Dromedary, Drud, Encounter, Himalaya, Merlin, Rattlesnake, Seagull, Simoom, Tamar, and Victor Emmanuel.

## SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

The proceedings in the House of Commons for the last week or so have been as a rule languid, an occasional squabble about the Government pushing on their bills at unwholesome hours excepted. There was, however, an episode which occupied the whole of the sitting on Wednesday, which presented the Liberal party in the House in that state of confusion worse confounded which inevitably occurs when large questions of reform crop up. Once more, and for the hundredth time, there has been exhibited the irreconcilability, the absence of real fusion, between the Whigs and the Radicals. In a great strait, caused by Mr. Gladstone, a Homeric enthusiast, imitating Achilles sulking in his tent, the Liberal party so called had to choose a leader, and they selected the heir of a great Whig house, who it was supposed was something more than a Whig; and in the disorganized state of the party it was perhaps the best thing to do. When, however, a crucial test was applied, the something more than a Whig leader deserted the Radicals; and not only that, but there was curious dissidence amongst the chiefs of the late Liberal Government. The occasion was the second reading of the bill which sought to confer household franchise in counties; in fact, to give to agricultural labourers of the calibre of urban working men the right of voting for members of Parliament. In pursuance of this his present mission Mr. Trevelyan renewed his attempts to establish this principle by the reproduction of his bill of last year. In the outset he moved the second reading, so to speak, with his hat, merely taking off that head-covering and bowing politely to the Speaker. As may be supposed, the country-gentlemen members are much influenced by the farmers; and, as the farmers just now are furious against the agricultural labourers, who are in organised revolt, of course it was to be expected that the Conservatives would be ranged in force against the measure. The instrument of formal opposition to the bill was Mr. Salt, who is a gentleman of ability and has acquired a fair position in the House. As a speaker he is somewhat sombre; but on this occasion, though his utterance was as slow as ever, he contrived to be slightly facetious, and has probably fixed an epithet on the conduct of the present Government which will stick; for, in contrasting the legislation of the late and the existing Administration, he designated that of the former as "alcoholic," and that of the latter as of a "suet-pudding" character. Fancy Mr. Disraeli's feelings when he, who has probably believed that his legislation was always as elegant and as nicely prepared as an *omelette soufflé*, was accused of having compounded heavy "stuckjaw!" as suet-pudding is called in schoolboy parlance. It was Mr. Forster's cue to accept the bill in all its integrity, and he did so with the rugged earnestness which belongs to him; and Mr. Fawcett did the like comparatively quietly, even though he still emphasised his syllable, literally, which he uttered. Members do not come down early on Wednesday, and Mr. Trevelyan judiciously postponed his speech until about four o'clock, when he would have an audience fitting to receive his elaborate speech and witness a wonderful feat of memory.

When the time arrived for the chief of the Liberal party to declare himself Lord Hartington duly appeared, and in his very first sentence indicated that he was going to take an independent course, and one which, on this question, would separate him from the Radical section of the Opposition, for he should abstain from voting on the second reading of the bill. There was an ominous silence below the gangway; but it was broken by groans positive when the noble Lord declared that, as the advent of the Conservatives to power had produced no political retrogression, he thought that Liberal progress might well stop where it was, and that this particular measure need not be made an accomplished fact. In truth, in arguing out his resolve, Lord Hartington uttered so much Conservatism that the Ministerialists cheered him vehemently, and cynical remarks began to fly about that the noble Lord had received notice to quit from the Liberals, and that he was offering to the Conservatives, if, which is not unlikely, they should be puzzled for a leader by and by, his services in that respect. It happened soon after this incident that, returning from a short absence from the House, Mr. Gladstone walked up the floor, and instantly the below-the-gangwayites broke out into a hearty cheer, which was prolonged for some time, and which was taken to mean that they were asking him to be their leader. As it happened, the demonstration was inept, because Mr. Gladstone, as to the bill, took precisely the same line as Lord Hartington, and abstained from voting. To be sure, the Radicals may well believe that if there is anything that they wish destroyed they will find a sympathiser, and even a vehement leader, in the gentleman, whom, even when he was Prime Minister, certain persons sarcastically called the junior member for Greenwich. The dispersedness of opinion amongst the leaders of the Opposition was illustrated by the fact that Mr. Lowe voted against the bill, and Mr. Bright joined Mr. Forster in voting for it.

One evening there was a discussion which was rather amusing, not because the speakers were vivacious and droll—one could accuse them individually of that—but because of a remarkable sequence of truckling to constituencies. The question was the site of a college for training naval cadets ashore, and it was pretty well ascertained that the Government had decided on Dartmouth, off which town the Britannia training-ship lies, from which the cadets are to be transferred. Thereupon Mr. Henry Edwards made a dilatory motion, which gave him the opportunity of showing how utterly unfit for the purpose were various places that had been proposed, and thus to lead up to the incomparable advantages, the beauty, the salubrity, the everything that was possible in the way of adaptability of Weymouth, which he represents. Scarcely had he ceased when up rose Mr. Evelyn Ashley with a declaration that of all the spots which resembled Paradise, Poole, for which he is member, was the first. By this time the House was in a humour to be amused, and by what perhaps was a violent effort Mr. Baillie Cochrane facetiously put in the claim of the Isle of Wight, for which he sits, and which he declared was far superior to Paradise itself. And so it went on—Portsmouth and Southampton being put forward as unapproachable by their respective members, amidst continuousittering. The members for Devon, however, buttressed up Dartmouth, which is situated in their county; while the members for Dorsetshire espoused that place, on account of vicinage; so that Mr. Ward-Hunt was strengthened in his resolve to stick to it, and the other postulant members found that they had thrown away a good deal of flowery description.

There was once a Parliament that was called *induction*, because there was not a single lawyer in it; but one evening this week there might have been seen a Parliament *decisissimum*, if the number of lawyers who were present entitled it to that epithet. The gentlemen "of the long robe"—to use a phrase which was Parliamentarily common at one time, and which Mr. Disraeli is still fond of using—were all in presence, and gathering like vultures about the bill which amends the Judicature Act. Most of them fell upon the original Act. There was Sir Henry James, who was a law officer in the Government in which Lord Selborne, the author of the Act, was Lord

Chancellor—though certainly not till after it was passed—lecturing it extremely. There was Mr. Watkin Williams, in his ardent way, showing up the peccant points of the measure; while Mr. Lopes was absolutely furious, designating the statute as a gigantic imposture. There were more of them in the same voice, though one or two—Mr. Serjeant Simon, for instance—feebly stood up for it. The Attorney-General is the mildest man that ever held a brief; and now he was in a special assenting mood. He observed that the original measure was none of his party's, and that, in the first instance, he himself opposed it. Though, therefore, it was his official business to coach it through the House, he was quite squeezable; and, as he yielded almost all the points that were objected to, the opposing lawyers had their good or wicked will, as the case might be.

An immense House was drawn together on Thursday evening to listen to the expounding of the mystery of the tour of the Prince of Wales in India. The subject was opened by Mr. Disraeli in that elaborate and somewhat turgid way which he adopts when he has to do things of this sort. The story, in brief, was that the Prince would go in mid-October, and remain in the East six months, during which he would make and receive presents, and would be the guest of the Viceroy, who would draw £32,000 from the revenues for the expenses of his hospitality, while the naval part of the expedition would cost £52,000, and the Prince himself would receive a donation of £60,000 for pocket-money and the exercise of his generous impulses. Of course, Lord Hartington was concientious, and even Mr. Fawcett was satisfied, and would have been more satisfied if nothing had been charged on India. Presently there came burly remonstrance from Mr. Macdonald, speaking, as he alleged, the sentiments of the working class; earnestly from Mr. Burt, and ludicrously from Mr. Peter Taylor. Irish loyalty was illustrated by carps from Mr. O'Connor Power and the inefable Mr. Biggar, and all of these worthies got pretty considerably rated and hooted. It is probable that dissent will be enlarged when the Estimates come on next week.

## PARLIAMENT.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

Yesterday week Lord Camperdown, having drawn attention to promotion and retirement, received an assurance from Lord Malmsbury that a scheme dealing with those subjects was under consideration. In answer to Lord Redesdale, the Duke of Richmond said that a vote would be taken this Session for the construction of a road from Piccadilly to Grosvenor-place. The Registration of Trade Marks Bill was read the third time, and other measures were advanced.

The House was occupied on Monday chiefly in consideration of the amendments in Committee to the Sale of Food and Drugs Bill, which was finally agreed to and ordered to be read the third time.

The reply of her Majesty to the address praying for a commission to inquire into corrupt practices at Norwich was brought up, on Tuesday, by Lord Beauchamp. On the motion for going into Committee on the Public Health Bill, Lord Camperdown drew attention to the supply of water to the metropolis, after which the bill passed through Committee. The report of the Ecclesiastical Fees Redistribution Bill was received, and the Glebe Lands Corporate Bodies (Ireland) Bill went through Committee.

The Artisans' Dwellings (Scotland) Bill was read the first time in the Lords on Thursday, and the Drainage and Improvement of Lands (Ireland) Provisional Orders Confirmation, the Friendly Societies, the Pollution of Rivers, and several other bills were advanced a stage.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On the order for going into Committee of Supply, yesterday week, a debate was raised by Mr. Edwards on the choice made by the Government of Dartmouth as the site for training-college for naval cadets. The hon. member, who represents the borough of Weymouth, contended that, for various reasons, climate, situation, and sanitary condition, the neighbourhood of that place possessed advantages which rendered it greatly superior to Dartmouth; and he moved that, before establishing the proposed college on the site selected, it was desirable to consider further the advantages offered by other places. Mr. Edwards's objections to Dartmouth were supported by Mr. Ashley and Mr. Baillie Cochrane, representing Poole and the Isle of Wight, each in turn insisting that his own site was the very best. Mr. Carpenter Garnier and Sir L. Palk, representatives of Devonshire, defended Dartmouth. Mr. Childers was not only opposed to Dartmouth, but doubted the expediency of substituting for the Britannia training-ship what would be only a great preparatory school. To this Mr. Hunt replied that the Britannia cost £35,000 a year besides the cost of the ship; and the younger officers nowadays were all in favour of training ashore. He admitted the remoteness of the situation; but, on all other points, Dartmouth was superior. Sir H. D. Wolff (Christchurch) spoke in favour of Poole; Mr. Floyer (Dorset) advocated Weymouth. The claims of Portsmouth and Southampton were put forward by their members—Mr. Bruce and Sir F. Perkins—and Mr. Stacpoole asked for delay in order that the claims of Ireland might be considered. After some observations from Mr. Goschen, who disapproved of Dartmouth on the ground of its insularity, and from Sir J. Kennaway, who reminded the House that the naval glories of England took their rise in Devon, Mr. Edwards's motion was negatived by 147 to 135. The result was received with much cheering from the Opposition. The subjects of Civil Bill Courts in Ireland and the Declaration of the Conference of Paris in 1856 were also considered; and there were likewise discussions on the mode in which the Surveyor of Works was to be paid for his services, and the propriety of the members of the Civil Service engaging in trade by means of co-operative stores. Afterwards the Civil Service Estimates were dealt with in Committee.

On Monday, after a preliminary discussion, the Supreme Court of Judicature Act Amendment Bill was considered in Committee. Sir H. James offered some criticisms, specially objecting to the proposed reduction of the number of Judges from eighteen to fifteen. In this view Mr. Lopes and Mr. Watkin Williams concurred, the latter gentleman reading a letter from the Lord Chief Baron, in which his Lordship declared his opinion that the proposed reduction in the number of law Judges would be injurious to the administration of justice. The Attorney-General, intimating that he was not able to withstand the almost unanimous feeling in the legal profession against the proposed reduction, undertook, on going into Committee, to alter clause 3, with the view of retaining the number of Judges at eighteen. The House then went into Committee on the bill, the conciliatory reputation of the Government being further maintained by important concessions made to the arguments of Mr. Watkin Williams and other hon. and learned members. On the motion of Mr. Gregory, which Mr. Williams accepted in place of his own, it was agreed—the Attorney-General alone, of all the lawyers in the Committee, supporting the bill—to omit the

provision which partially constituted the new Court of Appeal by appointing to it two of the Judges from the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. As a natural consequence of this, the Attorney-General accepted another amendment giving the Crown power to appoint by letters patent, as members of the Court, three "other persons" instead of one, as provided by the Bill. An attempt made by Sir H. James to lay down the rule that two of the appellate Judges shall have been justices or judges of the superior courts of law at Westminster, or of the corresponding division of the High Court of Justice, received very little support, and was negatived without a division. Clause 4, which constitutes the new court of appeal, and was described by several speakers as "the most important part of the Bill," then passed, after upwards of three hours' discussion. The discussion on the remaining clauses dealt with entirely involved technical points. Progress was reported on clause 16. The report of Supply was brought up and agreed to, the Artisans' Dwellings (Scotland) Bill was read the second time, and the Police Constables (Scotland) Bill was read the third time.

The House had a morning sitting on Tuesday, which was almost entirely spent in Committee of Supply. On the vote for the Salaries and Expenses of the Examiners of Criminal Law Accounts, Mr. Gorst moved to omit it; but, on a division, found only 39 supporters, the vote being affirmed by 263. When, at a quarter to seven, progress was reported, the whole of the votes in the section of judicial charges had been agreed to. The Enquiry Amendment (Scotland) Bill was read the second time, the Artisans' Dwellings (Scotland) Bill was passed through Committee, and, Lord Henry Somerset having brought up the Queen's reply to the address for the issue of a Royal Commission to inquire into the alleged corrupt practices at the Norwich election, the sitting was suspended. At the evening sitting Mr. Baillie Cochrane called attention to the progress of Russia in Central Asia, and moved for copies of papers relating to the occupation of Khiva by the Russians. The hon. member drew a vivid picture of the gradual but certain and threatening eastward advances of Russia, any lines or colours that may have been omitted being filled in by Mr. Hanbury, who pointed out that the territory gained by Russia in the East was intrinsically worthless, and suggested that it could have been acquired only for purposes of ulterior warlike. Sir G. Campbell, as the result of much thought and some personal knowledge of the facts, was in favour of maintaining a position of masterly inactivity, believing that we could not take any direct step without damaging ourselves. Mr. Bourke, replying on behalf of the Government, declined to follow in detail either Mr. Cochrane or Mr. Hanbury, and in studious general terms argued that the fears expressed by these hon. members were vastly overrated. As to the papers asked for, all that it was possible to produce were, he said, already in the hands of members. After some remarks from Mr. Butler-Johnstone, Mr. Baillie Cochrane withdrew his resolution. Just before half-past twelve Mr. Whalley rose to move for a Select Committee to inquire into matters relating to the Jesuits, and at twenty-six minutes to one the House was counted out.

The principal business on Wednesday was the discussion of the Household Franchise Counties Bill, the second reading of which was moved by Mr. Trevelyan. The chief speakers who took part in the debate were Mr. Salt, who moved the rejection of the measure, Mr. W. E. Forster, Mr. Fawcett, Lord John Manners, and Lord Hartington, who was in favour of the principle of the bill, but objected to it because it would involve a large redistribution of seats, and who declared that he should abstain from voting. On a division, the second reading was rejected by 268 to 106.

In reply to Mr. Grant Duff, on Thursday, Lord G. Hamilton stated that difficulties had arisen some time ago between the Government of India and the King of Burmah owing to the countenance given by the latter to the Chinese General who was believed to have given the order for the attack in which Mr. Margary was murdered. The Indian Government had insisted that the King should place no obstacles in the way of our obtaining redress, but the King refused to permit the passage of British troops through his territory. It was, however, hoped that he would yield to our just demand and that no collision would take place. Negotiations were still pending. Mr. Ward Hunt, in answer to a question from Mr. Edwards, stated that he should ask for a vote for the purchase of the site for the new Naval College at Dartmouth. On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. Disraeli made his promised statement in reference to the intended visit of the Prince of Wales to India. He said his Royal Highness was about to visit a population of more than 200 millions, with upwards of ninety reigning Sovereigns, and that the opportunity must be afforded him of justifying his generosity and maintaining the honour and dignity of the country. The arrangements proposed in connection with the visit of his Royal Highness were that he would leave Europe in October for six months. The Scropis and Osborne would be in attendance. In addition there would be a detached squadron under Admiral Lambert, which would rendezvous at Bombay, and give that pomp and circumstance to the visit which would become the future Sovereign of these realms. The First Lord of the Admiralty would place an estimate on the table so far as the Navy was concerned, which would amount to £52,000. Four-fifths of this amount would fall on the present financial year, and the remainder on the year that followed. When the Prince arrived in India he would become the guest of the Viceroy; but the expenditure to the Indian revenue would not be extensive, as it would be confined to the rites of hospitality. About £30,000 would be the cost of that head, and that would be defrayed by the Indian Government. He now came to the amount necessary for the personal expenses of the Prince of Wales. The Government considered that the sum they should move in Committee for this purpose was £60,000, which would, they believed, maintain the Prince of Wales in becoming splendour. They proposed that the sum should be subject to an audit by Sir W. Anderson, who would be responsible to the Government. In conclusion, Mr. Disraeli expressed a hope that Providence would guard over the special mission of the Prince, and that the visit would be conducted in a way that became the heir of a great empire. Lord Hartington expressed his approval of the arrangement. Mr. Fawcett thought the statement they had heard would be received with satisfaction, but trusted that the Prime Minister would charge the whole of the expense on the home instead of part on the Indian finances. Objections to the proposed vote were made by Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Burt, Mr. O. C. Power, and Mr. P. Taylor. It was, however, cordially supported by all the other members who took part in the discussion. Mr. Disraeli said he proposed to take Committee on the Estimate on Thursday next. The House then went into Committee of Supply.

Some shorthorns belonging to Messrs. Lacy's herd were sold by auction at Wateringbury last week. The most valuable animal was the bull Eighth Duke of Geneva, which was purchased for an American gentleman for 2000 guineas.

## NATIONAL SPORTS.

The attendance at Sandown Park last week was not very large, and the unseasonable rain in connection with Tangible's defeat in The Gold Cup proved that the irrepressible rough is not to be excluded by an entrance fee of half a crown. Still the weather was favourable, and the Prince of Wales was present on both days, so that the meeting may fairly be pronounced a success, though we doubt if it will ever quite fulfil the anticipations of its promoters. The Kingston Nursery was by far the most interesting event of the Friday. Rosalinda, who finished third to Galopin and Belle in the Filly Stakes at Ascot, was greatly fancied, and though she was so much interfered with at the start that Coronella held a lead of a dozen lengths when they had gone half way, yet she gradually caught her, and won very cleverly by a neck. Cuckoo rode Rosalinda with great resolution, and she must be a very smart filly, though the performance is scarcely so good as it looks, as Coronella has now run ten times this season, and is not nearly so speedy as she was two months ago. On Saturday Coronella made short work of Lady Malden, and the Ghost cantered away from a large field opposed to him for the welter cup presented by the Prince of Wales. Thuringian Prince, who was in receipt of 11 lb. from Tangible, was made a strong favourite for the Gold Cup; and, on the running of the pair with Lowlander at Ascot, he appeared pretty certain to win. Tangible, unfortunately, came into collision with the Codicil colt soon after starting, and was so severely cut and bruised that he could not make an effort at the finish, and "the Prince" won by six lengths. We suppose that most of the spectators were ignorant of the accident, and there was a strong demonstration against Webb, the rider of Tangible, who narrowly escaped being very roughly handled. Sir George Chetwynd, the owner, was naturally much incensed at the imputations cast on him, and the matter is not likely to be allowed to rest here.

The July Meeting is, perhaps, the most enjoyable of the seven held at Newmarket, and we think that a second summer meeting "behind the ditch" would be generally appreciated by racing men. Two-year-old racing is always the backbone of the fixture, and several highly-trained youngsters have made their first appearance during the week. The Filly Stakes was won pretty easily by Area Belle, a fine half-sister to Roland Graeme, by Beadsman—Housemaid. Come Kiss Me ran no better than at Ascot, and Solitude, by Blair Athol—Seclusion, a half-sister to Hermit, who cost 2000 guineas as a yearling, could only run second, though, as she is by no means fit yet, she may do better in future. Lord Falmouth's Skylark, by King Tom—Whatear, had not much to beat in the Gladiator Stakes; and then Goddess, a very nice half-sister to Hazeldean, by Crandon—Nutbush, ran away from eight opponents over the last half mile of the new T.Y.C. The July Stakes brought out a field of ten, including three or four highly-tried dark ones, of whom Gilestone, a half-brother to Cashmere, was made favourite. The finish was one of the best ever seen, Levant, on whom Fordham rode a splendid race, winning by a head from the Parmesan—Lady Coventry colt, a head behind whom came Camelie and Gilestone. Coftness was only fifth, and has sadly belied his Ascot promise. The top weight of 10 st. did not affect Lowlander in the Chevilly Stakes, and he is such an immensely powerful horse that heavy weights seem to make little difference to him. On Wednesday Dreadnaught, who was at one time a good deal fancied for the Do-By, made his first appearance this season; but his poor exhibition against Turfme did not give much St. Leger promise; Father Claret gave Concha 8 lb., and a clever beating in their match; and Alincette, with whom Count Lagrange declared to win, beat her stable companion Camelie, Area Belle, and three others very easily in the Exeter Stakes.

The Carlisle July Meeting proved one of the most successful meeting that has ever been held in the Swifts. Of course the Cumberland Plate, for which eleven ran, was the great event of the two days. Organist (8 st. 12 lb.) was backed down to 6 to 4; but he could not even obtain a place, and Perkin Warbeck (6 st. 10 lb.) got home a neck in front of Trent (6 st. 13 lb.)

Several important sales of blood stock have taken place during the week. Ten yearlings, belonging to the Earl of Rosslyn, who has formed a breeding stud at Easdon Lodge, averaged 176 guineas; and six young Gladiateurs, bred by Captain Ray, then made the capital average of 232 guineas. The great French horse himself was also put up to auction, to dissolve a partnership, and was knocked down to Captain Ray, one of his former owners, for 4200 guineas, a long price when it is remembered that he has now been at the stud for eight or nine years, and has had very little success. Of course the most important sale of the week was that of the Dewhurst yearlings, bred by Mr. Gee. They were a remarkably good lot, and the twenty-seven sold averaged, as nearly as possible 230 guineas. Stockwell II. (1400 guineas), by King of the Forest—Virtue, was the pick of the lot, and fell to Mr. Peck's nod. He has splendid limbs, and is full of quality, with plenty of size and power; indeed, it is almost impossible to pick a hole in him. A colt by Parmesan—Repus (800 guineas), half-brother to Levant, is also a remarkably nice one. At the conclusion of this sale, three of Lord Lonsdale's horses were put up, and Lord Zetland gave 6000 guineas for King Lud.

Two very interesting cricket matches between the Gentlemen and Players have been played within the last few days. Of late years the former have had all the best of the annual contests, so it was very hard luck for the professionals that a heavy fall of rain prevented them from securing a well-earned victory last week. Jupp (16 and 52) was the highest scorer for his side; and in the Gentlemen's second innings, the bowling of Shaw and Morley proved so deadly, that seven wickets fell for 31 runs. The return match at Lord's was a very remarkable one. At the end of the first innings the Players were 17 runs in advance; but then the second innings of the Gentlemen produced the colossal total of 441, and they eventually won by no less than 262 runs. The principal scorers for the winners were W. G. Grace (152), A. J. Webb (65), G. H. Longman (70 and 41), and A. N. Hornby (17 and 58); while, of the professionals, Lockwood (67) and Greenwood (51) were the chief contributors. In the match between the elevens of Eton and Winchester Schools, the former won, in their second innings with five wickets down, the score being—Eton, 276; Winchester, 275.

The croquet championship and the challenge cup offered by the All-England Croquet Club were won by Mr. Gray, after a fine contest, in the grounds of the club at Wimbledon.

The Metropolitan Regatta, which took place on Wednesday, proved very successful. The Champion Eight fell to the Moulsey R.C., which sent out precisely the same crew which appeared at Henley; while several alterations had been made in the London and Thames crews, and they were far slower in consequence. In the London Cup F. L. Playford defeated A. C. Dicker, the champion sculler, and, with more practice, he will probably make a very good man indeed.

A splendid feat was accomplished on Saturday last by Captain Webb, who swam from Brunswick Pier, Blackwall, to the Town Pier, Gravesend, a distance of twenty miles, in 4 hours 42 min. 10 sec., without any assistance whatever.

The Mayor of Leeds, on Tuesday, laid the foundation stone of a new market, to be erected at a cost of £10,000

## LAW AND POLICE.

The Lord Chancellor has issued an order for the closing of the county courts on the next bank holiday, Aug. 2.

Sir Frederick Pollock, one of the Masters of the Court of Exchequer (eldest son of the late Chief Baron), has been appointed to the office of Queen's Remembrancer.

Mr. John Rigby has been appointed to the office of Junior Equity Counsel to the Treasury, or, as it is usually called, of Attorney-General's Equity Devil, in the place of Mr. G. W. Hemming, who has become a Queen's Counsel.

Mr. J. Granville Layard has been appointed Assistant Justice's Clerk at the Mansion House at a salary of £350.

Mr. Alderman Hawkes, solicitor, has been elected to the office of coroner for Birmingham, in the room of Dr. Birt Davies, who signed a short time ago.

At Cambridgeshire Quarter Sessions, on Thursday week, Mr. Arthur Sperling of Leatherbury Hill, St. Ives, was unanimously elected to the chairmanship of the sessions, vacant by the resignation of the Hon. E. T. Yorke. The Earl of Hertford declined to allow himself to be nominated.

Judgment was given in some cases in the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday, when, according to the *Times* reporter, the Court sat for the last time. The Judges proceeded, indeed, to Guildhall to continue the *Nisi Prius* sittings there; but they are not sittings of the Court itself, and are only sittings of single Judges for trial of cases under the authority of the Court. The Court of Queen's Bench, properly so called, unless some fresh change be made in the law, has closed its long existence—of at least 1000 years, for it is curious that just that period has elapsed since the time when the King, in the person of Alfred, first exercised its high jurisdiction over all magistrates and superior Judges. This special jurisdiction, indeed, constitutes the exclusive jurisdiction of the King's Bench, which preserves the memory of its origin in its peculiar title, "The Court of the King before the King himself." Its jurisdiction is, indeed, under the Judicature Act, transferred to the High Court, but it ceases to exist as a separate Court, and whenever its Judges sit again it will be not as Judges of this Court, but as members of a division of the High Court. And so this high Court, with all its memories and traditions, has passed away into history, and become a thing of the past.

An alteration in the present Summer Circuit as to Wales has necessitated a different arrangement as to the attendance of one of the Common Law Judges at the Central Criminal Court on Wednesday next, the 11th inst. The session will begin on Monday, and, as appointed, Lord Coleridge would have attended; but, as North Wales Judge, his Lordship has to open the commission on Saturday next; and by the 11th inst. all the Judges, except Baron Clesby, will be busily engaged on circuit, and his Lordship will have daily to attend at chambers. There remain in town the three election-petition Judges—Mr. Justice Lush, Mr. Justice Denman, and Baron Amphlett. One of their Lordships will have to attend at the Central Criminal Court.

The Chancery suit brought by the King of Portugal to assert his right to the botanical collections of the late Dr. P. Welwitsch during his African explorations has ended in a compromise, one portion of the collection going to the British Museum and other portions to Portugal.

A remarkable suit relating to a trade mark has been decided by Vice-Chancellor Bacon. Both parties were engaged in the export of Manchester goods and had used the same mark, part of an arm grasping a serpent, the plaintiff for upwards of twenty years, the defendant since he commenced business in 1861, but neither discovered the use of it by the other till 1872. His Honour considered that the plaintiff had established the prior use of the mark, and granted an injunction against the defendant.

Before the Master of the Rolls has been heard a singular case, in which a man named Hall had twice been supposed to be dead, but had on each occasion been found alive. A third report of his death having proved true, an application was made for the payment of £771, to which certain persons would be entitled on his decease, and this was granted.

An action has been brought by the Wheeler and Wilson Manufacturing Company against another Birmingham sewing-machine maker to recover damages for representing his lines to be made by the plaintiffs. The defence was that the representation to his customers was only that they were to be made according to the Wheeler and Wilson patent, which has expired; but on Lord Coleridge putting it to the jury whether the defendant had done more than simply make the machines (which he has now a perfect right to do), they gave a verdict for the plaintiffs, with £200 damages.

Mr. Registrar Pepys, sitting as Chief Judge in the Court of Bankruptcy, had before him, yesterday week, the case of Messrs. Alexander Collie and Co., who have filed a petition for liquidation, estimating their liabilities at £3,100,000 sterling. The application for the appointment of Mr. John Young, of Turquand and Co., as a receiver and manager to the estate was granted, and the first meeting was fixed for the 28th inst.

Consequent on the suspension of Messrs. Collie and Company, the failure is announced of Mr. Patrick Anderson, merchant, King-street, Dundee, with liabilities stated at from £80,000 to £90,000. The firm of Messrs. W. R. Morison and Co., spinners and manufacturers, Wallace Works, of which Mr. Anderson was a partner, have also been compelled to lay their affairs before their creditors. Their liabilities are not stated.

Messrs. Gilend A. Smith and Co., merchants, of London and New York, having presented a petition for liquidation, with liabilities estimated at upwards of £530,000, the Court of Bankruptcy has granted an application to appoint Mr. F. Whinney receiver to the estate.

Mr. J. R. Hawks, the stockbroker who had been charged with the misappropriation of about £100 belonging to the Rev. Mr. Hatchard, has been brought up at the Mansion House for a similar alleged fraud to the extent of £800 on the Rev. J. D. Cannon, of Brighton.

Fines of from £5 to £10, with heavy costs, have been imposed at the Guildhall on three country dealers for having sent meat to the London market.

At Sheffield, on Saturday last, the man Oldale and five supporters of his claim to the estate of Millhouses, now in the possession of Earl Fitzwilliam, were committed for trial at the assizes on charges of riot and trespass.

Duncan Dawson, a wholesale currier and leather-dealer, who failed a short time since with liabilities amounting to £35,000, was sentenced, at the Hull Sessions, last Saturday, to six months' hard labour for concealing property from the trustee under the liquidation.

At Dublin Police Court, on Monday, two labourers, who are charged with having attempted to destroy the Albert Memorial statue in that city, were committed for trial.



MEETING OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AT TAUNTON: THE SHOW-YARD.



NEW EMIGRANT-SHIP, HESPERIDES, FOR THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LINE.

## COURT CUSTOMS IN BURMAH.



BURMESE SOLDIERS GUARDING THE BONES OF SACRIFICIAL BUFFALOES.

The kingdom of Upper Burmah, or more properly Ava, with which the British Indian Government has just now to carry on a rather troublesome discussion, through Sir T. Douglas Forsyth, our Special Envoy to his Burmese Majesty, is situated north of Pegu and east of Arracan, nearly opposite the coast of Bengal. It occupies an extensive territory of the interior, three times as large as England, including the upper courses of the great rivers Irawaddy and Salween, which have their outlets to the sea at Rangoon and Moulmein, in the British provinces of Pegu and the Tenasserim. The population of Ava or Independent Burman is estimated at four millions, chiefly of Mongolian race and of the Buddhist religion. The reigning King, whose name is Mounglon, is the second son of King Tharawaddy. He deposed his brother and seized the throne in 1853, having passed the earlier part of his life in a monastery, under the vows of a "phongyee," or Buddhist priest. He then removed the capital from Amarapura to Mandalay, some miles higher up the river. His Majesty bears the following titles:—"Builder of the Royal Palace, Ruler of the Sea and Land, Lord of the Celestial Elephant and Master of Many White Elephants, Owner of the Shekyah or Indra's Weapon, Lord of the Power of Life and Death, and Great Chief of Righteousness." The white elephant is not a myth, but is an actual appurtenance of Royal state at the Court of Mandalay. Only the forehead, ears, and eyes of this beast are really of a dingy white colour, "like indiarubber that has been rubbed on pumice-stone;" the remainder of the body and limbs are like those of other elephants. The "white elephant" of the King of Siam, at Bangkok, is entirely of a sort of flesh-colour, or between that and cream-colour. The most recent account of the Burmese Court is given by Mr. Frank Vincent, an American traveller, in his book, "The Land of the White Elephant," published by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Low, about two years ago. The city of Mandalay has a splendid appearance in the distance, with its gilt spires and towers and the shining roofs of palaces and temples rising above thick masses of foliage in the surrounding groves and gardens; but most of the houses are mean and squalid. Mandalay forms a square, each side one mile long, with a high and massive brick wall, and a moat filled with water, all round the city. On each side are three gates, with pyramidal

towers, covered with gilding, and there are many turrets along the walls. Wide streets cross the city from one gate to another, intersecting each other at right angles, with smaller and less regular lanes between. The population is about one hundred thousand. Mr. Vincent describes his visit to the palace, where he had an interview with the King, "a

short, stout, pleasant, crafty-looking gentleman, fifty-four years of age." His hair was thin, tied up in a knot; his face was close shaven, except a thin, black moustache; his dress was very plain and simple, merely a white "engie," a white linen jacket and a silk "putso," or cloth, worn round the hips and thighs; he had no ornaments in his ears, but they were bored with holes nearly an inch in diameter. His Majesty reclined on a red velvet cushion, flourishing a silver-mounted binocular opera-glass, with which he scrutinised the faces of his visitors while they spoke to him. One of his queens, keeping herself out of sight behind a partly-drawn green curtain, fanned him all the time with a fan of peacock's feathers. His voice was soft and low, and his replies, or the questions he put through an interpreter, were uttered in a very slow and deliberate manner. The apartments of the palace entered by Mr. Vincent were decorated with much carving and gilding, and white silk umbrellas were suspended over the King's seat. The Princes, courtiers, and Ministers of State are briefly mentioned; and the Heir Apparent wore a huge pair of diamond earrings. We now present the portraits of three great ladies of the Court, the principal wives of Prince Kou Tee, but we cannot say much for their personal charms or for the good taste of their attire. They wear necklaces composed of Hydrabab or sica rupees and gold mohurs from India. The subject of our other illustration is yet more characteristic of this semi-barbarous Asiatic kingdom. It is a collection of buffaloes' heads and bones, displayed on a wooden frame of shelves outside the palisade of the Prince's palace. These animals have, from time to time, been killed and offered in sacrifice to some of the invisible deities whose worship is here combined with that of Buddha. A guard of Burmese soldiers, half-naked men, armed with old-fashioned muskets, are squatting in front of the deposit of sacred bones.



PRINCE KOU-TEE'S CHIEF WIVES.

Lord Walter Campbell, son of the Duke of Argyll, has been admitted a member of the stockbroking firm of Helbert, Wagg, and Co. The name of the firm will now be Helbert, Wagg, and Campbell. Another of the Duke's sons is a member of a firm of corndealers; and a third is studying for the Bar in the Middle Temple.

## MUSIC.

## THE OPERA SEASON.

At the Royal Italian Opera repetition performances have prevailed—with an occasional slight modification of the previous cast. On Thursday week "Lucia di Lammermoor" was given, with the brilliant singing of Mdlle. Albani as the heroine; Signor Carpi having appeared as Edgardo, for the first time in that character. The new tenor was again favourably received, as he had previously been as Lohengrin, and as the Duke in "Rigoletto." The cast of "Lucia" was completed by Signor Sabatini, Graziani, and Capponi.

On Monday, "L'Étoile du Nord" was performed, for the first time this season, with the admirable representation of Caterina by Madame Adelina Patti, and of Pietro by M. Faure, other principal characters having also been filled as last year.

On Tuesday "Lohengrin" was repeated, and on Wednesday "Semiramide." For Thursday "Fidelio" was announced, for the first time these three years. On Friday (yesterday) "Le Nozze di Figaro" was to be given, and to-night (Saturday) "Romeo e Giulietta" is to be the opera. Next week will be the last of the season.

The last floral Hall concert of the season took place on Saturday afternoon, when most of the principal singers of the Royal Italian Opera—including Madame Adelina Patti and Mdlle. Albani—were heard in a miscellaneous selection.

At Her Majesty's Opera Mdlle. Marguerite Chappuy made her third appearance on Saturday, when "Il Barbere di Siviglia" was given, with that lady as Rosina (for the first time there). Her brilliant voice and florid execution produced a marked impression in several instances, particularly in the opening cavatina, "Una voce" (the andante of which was encored); the duet with Figaro, "Dunque io son," and the introduced aria of the lesson scene. The piece chosen in this situation was the "Aragomise," from Auber's "Le Domino Noir." The impulse and vivacity with which this was given, and the display of an exceptional compass reaching to F' in alt, called forth enthusiastic demonstrations of applause and a double encore. Signor Panzetta, who made his first appearance as Count Almaviva, was favourably received. Of his qualifications, however, we must await another opportunity for judgment. Signor De Reschi—who has hitherto been associated with characters in serious opera—rather surprised us by his spirited acting as Figaro, the music of which part he sang with much effect. The cast in other respects presented no novelty. "Il Barbere" was announced for repetition on Thursday. "Lohengrin" was given (for the sixth time here) on Tuesday; and "Faust" is to be performed this (Saturday) evening, for the last time this season, the close of which is announced for Saturday next, after which six supplemental performances are to be given.

## NATIONAL MUSIC MEETINGS.

As stated last week, these meetings opened at the Crystal Palace on the Thursday, the proceedings having taken place too late for detailed notice until now. The first day's competition was between soprano solo singers (class 8), eleven candidates having been chosen out of twenty-one. The competitors were Misses E. Alley, L. Bagnall, Anne Carrina, Mary Davies, Kathleen Grant, Margaret Hoare, Charlotte Agnes Larkcom, Lloyd, Blanche Lucas, Emily Thorndike, and A. Louise Waters. The pieces sung were selected from a list previously given by the judges—Sir J. Benedict, Signor Arditi, and Mr. W. G. Cusins. The competitors were first heard with orchestral accompaniment by the Crystal Palace band, conducted by Mr. Manns, and afterwards with piano-forte accompaniment played by Mr. R. Beringer. Although the singing was throughout very far above the average, there could be no certainty in assigning the first prize—a purse of £25—to Miss Larkcom, who displayed a voice of excellent quality, at once brilliant and sympathetic; good phrasing and intonation, neat execution, and great general refinement of style. This young lady is a student of the Royal Academy of Music. But little, if any, hesitation could have been felt as to the award of the second prize—a purse of £10—to Miss Carrina, each of these decisions having, apparently, been in accordance with the general impression. "Honourable mention" was accorded by the judges to Misses Alley, Bagnall, Davies, and Lucas.

The second day's proceedings, on Saturday, consisted of the competition of five tenor solo-singers chosen out of eighteen candidates in class 10. The names of these gentlemen were T. W. Earth, C. J. O'Bryne, A. L. Fryer, G. Sylvester, and C. Wilfrington. These were also heard both with piano-forte and orchestral accompaniment. The singing was, in most instances, unexpectedly good, and the prizes (of the same amount as on the previous occasion) were bestowed, the first on Mr. Sylvester, the second on Mr. Fryer.

The third meeting took place last Wednesday, when the competition was between contralto or mezzo-soprano solo singers (class 9) and baritone or bass solo singers (class 11). The judges in the former instance were Sir J. Benedict, Signor Arditi, and Mr. Binley Richards; and they awarded the first prize (a purse of £25) to Miss Annie Butterworth, and the second prize (a purse of £10) to Miss E. A. Reinar. Mr. H. Leslie, Mr. O. Goldschmidt, and Mr. J. L. Hatton were the judges of class 11, and they bestowed the first prize (£25) on Mr. Edward Wlarten; and the second prize was divided between Mr. H. Cross and Mr. F. Thomas, whose merits were considered to be on an equality. Eleven competitors were selected under class 9, and eight under class 11.

The final competition—between choirs and bands—took place yesterday (Friday) and the prizes are to be distributed this (Saturday) afternoon by Madame Lind-Goldschmidt; the distribution to be followed by a concert by the prize-winners.

The sixty-third season of the Philharmonic Society closed on Monday with the eighth concert of the series. The specialty of the programme was a new "Idyl," composed by Professor G. A. Macfarren, in memory of Sir Sterndale Bennett. The work is written in a style of appropriate solemnity, and is a graceful tribute from the living composer to his deceased friend: it was greatly applauded. M. Wieniawski executed, with much brilliancy, the ninth violin concerto of Vieuxtemps; the other instrumental works having been Haydn's symphony in E flat (No. 10), Beethoven's in C minor, and Weber's "Jubilee" overture. Some vocal pieces were finely sung by Mdlle. Titien. Mr. Cusins conducted, as usual.

"Fra Diavolo" has been added to the performances of French opera at the Gaiety Theatre, the principal character very effectively sustained by M. Tourné, that of Zerlina being played with much spirit and grace by Mdlle. Mary Albert. The cast is rendered very complete by the co-operation of Mdlle. de Vauvre and Mdlle. Barbet, Eroles, Joannis, Sujo, and Preys. Victor Mauss's "Galathée" was given on Tuesday, and Adolphe Adam's "Le P'tit Le Longjumeau" is announced for this (Saturday) evening. The entire proceeds of the 17th Gaiety matinee this (Saturday) morning will be devoted to the sufferers from the late floods in France. A very attractive programme is announced by Messrs. Coulon and Hollingshead.

Music continues to be an important and prominent feature at the Alexandra Palace. This week's Saturday Concert—the sixth of the series—offers a very attractive programme, presenting, among other interesting features, Mendelssohn's "Loreley" music, Beethoven's pastoral symphony, and vocal pieces by several eminent singers. A new scheme is about to be inaugurated here by the establishment of summer evening promenade concerts, to be given on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, beginning on July 21. The already fine orchestra of the establishment is to be increased to 130 performers, the Alexandra Palace choir is to be augmented to 500 voices, and the programmes will include selections of classical and popular music.

The sixth and last banquet of the season of the Noblemen and Gentlemen's Catch Club, a distinguished musical club which was instituted in 1761, took place yesterday week at Willis's Rooms, on which occasion a number of ladies were present. The Earl of Wilton presided, and Mr. Hamilton Cartwright filled the vice-chair.

The amateur society La Societa Lirica, Belgravia, held its last meeting for practice on Saturday, at the residence of Lord Clarence Paget, when a performance of Spohr's opera "Jessonda" was given, under the direction of Professor Ella.

As already recorded, the subscription concerts of Mr. Henry Leslie's choir came to a close last month. An extra concert was announced for yesterday (Friday) evening, with a varied and attractive programme.

The last of Mr. Aptoni's excellent harp concerts was given on Saturday last; and among the other concerts given during the past week was Mdlle. Georgina Schubert's matinée musicale, given, by permission, at Grosvenor House yesterday.

The Welsh Choral Union closes its season on Monday evening with a concert, including some national music.

Madame Christine Nilsson has announced a grand evening concert to take place at the Royal Albert Hall on Wednesday next, to include performances by herself and other eminent artists, chiefly of Her Majesty's Opera. Mr. Sims Reeves's name is among the announcements.

The Carl-Rosa Opera Company will open its first London season on Sept. 11, at the Princess's Theatre. Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro" is to be given, followed by Balf's "Siege of Recchelle," Cherubini's "Water-Carrier" ("Les Deux Journées"), Dafne's "Bohemian Girl" (with the additions composed by Balf for the Paris version), and other important works. One welcome feature will be the return of Mr. Santley to the operatic stage. The most popular of English baritones, whose skill as an actor has been too little seen of late, will sustain Rolson's rôle in an opera by Cagnoni, founded on "The Porter's Knot." Besides Mr. Santley, Mr. Carl Rosa's company will include several accomplished artists especially engaged in Italy. The orchestra will be complete, and will comprise many of our best instrumentalists, with Mr. J. T. Carrodd as leading violinist.

The Dean and Chapter of Worcester have now nearly completed the arrangements for the proposed festival, or series of sacred song, which they have decided shall supersede the "Festival of the Three Choirs," with band and oratorios, at the cathedral, and secular evening concerts at the College Hall. It has been determined that the substituted festival shall occupy two days—Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 22 and 23—with a rehearsal on Tuesday, the 21st. The programme—which has not yet been completed—will consist of full choral service morning and evening, with anthems, the following being among the works selected—"God, Thou art great" (Speler); "Hosanna" (Gibbons); and "The Wilderness" (Wesley). The cathedral choirs of Hereford and Gloucester have accepted engagements to join that of Worcester on the occasion.

Most of our readers are aware that very strong efforts have been made to procure the erection of a monumental tablet in Westminster Abbey to the memory of Balf; and certainly, if contemporary popularity constitutes a claim, it would seem that there is a strong one in this instance. The memorial to Dean Stanley, issued from Dublin in May, and bearing many titled and distinguished names, headed by that of the Duke of Edinburgh, has been replied to by the Dean of Westminster, who, after expressing his wish to accede to the request, says: "I cannot, in consideration of the limited space in the Abbey and its cloisters, and of the demands of those who shall come after us, admit, unless in exceptional cases, the increase of cemeteries, until I have received from the Government the assurance that the accommodation for such monuments will be enlarged, so as to give additional room for their suitable erection. I have been led to hope that such assurance will be given, but I have not yet been able to succeed in obtaining it; and you will, therefore, understand that I am, for the present, debarred from acceding to a request which it would have given me so much pleasure to satisfy, both from the desire to meet the wishes of the distinguished persons who have applied, and also to render honour to a gifted native of the sister island." We are sorry that Dean Stanley felt constrained to answer in the negative.

## THEATRES.

In the dearth of dramatic production it is an important consideration to have something to fall back upon, in the shape of a new entertainment at St. George's Hall, by Mr. and Mrs. German Reed, supported by the excellent music of the former. The piece, by Mr. W. S. Gilbert, is of a more psychological character than usual, and aspires to embody some elfin fancies of Hans Andersen relative to a fairy garment, which is either visible or otherwise, according to the moral disposition of those who try to see it. The development of this enchanting idea is confined to six persons—namely, Mr. Alfred Reed, as a misery old farmer named Cassandra; Mr. Cornley Graine and Mr. A. E. Bishop, as twin-brothers named Pierrot and Arlequin, draped and costumed in the early pantomime fashion—Miss Fanny Holland and Miss Leonora Graham as Cassandra's nieces, named Colombine and Clochette; and Mrs. German Reed—always great in such parts—as an old coquette, named Nicolette. It is entitled "Eyes and No Eyes; or, The Art of Seeing." The dialogue is a combination of the racy and the mystical, and remarkably suitable to the genius of Mr. Gilbert, who revels in it and makes a number of capital hits. To Nicolette, the vain old dame, he gives a recitation, accompanied with music and composed in Pindaric rhymes, in which the ancient dame describes herself as a basilisk, whose gaze is fatal. Her fascinations are involuntary, but inevitable; and she is, in fact, a "miserable beauty," who cannot help the widespread mischief that she causes. The perplexities of this fanciful plot are ingeniously unfolded, and the interest of the action is maintained to the last. With these elements of success, the piece is likely enough to become permanently popular.

Miss Emily Soldene made her first appearance last Saturday in London since her return from America at the Gaiety matinee performances in "Geneviève de Brabant."

The annual festival of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, which was attended by the principal members of the theatrical profession, was held on Thursday week at the Freemasons' Tavern. Mr. Irving, who presided, proposed the toast of the fund, which he couched with the name of Mr. Buckstone, who briefly responded, and concluded by proposing the health of Signor Salvini. Signor Salvini having replied, Mr. Piggott, the examiner of plays, proposed the toast of the drama, which was responded to by Mr. Wills. Mr. Swinburne gave the health of the chairman, and Sir Frederick Pollock responded for the legal profession, proposed by Mr. Buckstone in the absence of Mr. Scobell. The subscriptions amounted to more than £1000.

The fete in aid of the funds of the Royal Dramatic College was held at the Alexandra Palace last Saturday. The entertainments were of the usual miscellaneous character, and most of the principal actors and actresses lent their services. The result is understood to have been in every way successful.

Mr. Irving gave, on Thursday afternoon, a reading at Grosvenor House, in aid of the Hospital for Hip Disease in Childhood, Queen's-square, Bloomsbury.

Pending the return of Dr. Lynn to the arena of his triumphs, Mr. J. Morris has provided an entertainment of sufficient attraction to draw large audiences to the Egyptian Hall. The programme consists of a lecture by Miss Emily Faithfull upon American poets, illustrated by excerpts from their works; a musical comedietta, entitled "Lessons in Harmony," adapted from the French by Miss Illa Dietz; and a recital in character by Mrs. Lippincott (Miss Grace Greenwood).

The celebrated tragedian and Shakespearian reader, Miss Glyn, is, we understand, making arrangements for an autumn tour in Scotland and a winter tour in England. Can no arrangement be made to see Miss Glyn in London on the stage or in readings?

## WORK AND WAGES.

Mr. Rupert Kettle, having retired from the office of arbitrator in trade disputes, the North of England Iron Trade Arbitration Board have resolved to communicate with the different industries, with a view of originating some appropriate public recognition of his services.

Mr. Chamberlain, the Mayor of Birmingham, who undertook to act as umpire in the wages dispute between the Gloucestershire colliery owners and their workmen, has decided in favour of a 10 per cent reduction instead of 15 per cent, as required by the employers.

A new feature in connection with strikes has developed itself in Warwickshire. The miners on strike in that county have obtained the use of many local school-rooms and places of worship, and are submitting themselves to tuition daily in reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Forming a gathering of some 50,000 persons, the fifth annual demonstration of the Durham county miners took place on Sunday afternoon on the Durham racecourse. There were 125 banners and 115 bands of music in attendance, and, shortly after noon, two meetings were held simultaneously. Mr. Joseph Cowen, M.P., who was to have presided at one of these, forwarded a long letter of apology for his absence. Mr. Alexander Macdonald, M.P., and Mr. Thomas Burt, M.P., spoke at considerable length on the benefits arising from trades unions, and the first-named also impressed upon his hearers the necessity of securing the assimilation of the borough and county franchise as a step towards their political emancipation. Messrs. Lloyd Jones and C. Bradlaugh also delivered addresses on the labour question.

There was a great meeting of ironmasters at Wolverhampton, on Monday, specially convened to instruct the conciliation board, there being a dead lock through the refusal of the men to accept the employers' new wages terms. The situation was fully discussed, and its gravity at the present juncture was not concealed. Ultimately the trade resolved to be guided by the course upon which the employers who are members of the conciliation board might at last determine. On the same day a meeting, representing more than ten thousand ironworkers in the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire districts, was held at West Bromwich; much discontent was evinced, the men carrying a resolution that if employers did not accept the principle of arbitration as a means of settling trade disputes in the future, they would strike or suffer to be locked out rather than receive less wages.

A serious dispute between the masters and men employed in the china clay trade in Cornwall has taken place in the matter of wages and working hours, and 1300 men struck work; but the strike has come to an end, the masters abandoning the reduction of wages.

Chinese officers are making large purchases of arms in Germany on account of their Government.

The Midland Farmers' Club visited Mr. Mechi's farm at Tiptree, on Wednesday, along with several well-known agriculturists, and inspected the system of farming adopted there.

The annual show of the Essex Agricultural Society opened, on Tuesday, at Brentwood. The show is an excellent one, especially in regard to horses, of which there are 235 entries, and the attendance was very large.

A gun-boat, built by Messrs. Laird, of Birkenhead, for the Portuguese Government, was launched on the Mersey last Saturday. Previous to the launch two priests blessed the vessel, the sprinkling of holy water and a procession along the deck forming a portion of the ceremony.

About 300 persons took part in the annual rural fete of the Metropolitan Conservative Alliance, held, on Tuesday, in the park of Mr. Philip Twells, M.P., near Enfield. During the day a dinner was given, at which Mr. Alderman Cotton, M.P., presided, and several members of Parliament made speeches.

The Lord Mayor on Wednesday entertained the Bishops at a banquet at the Mansion House, when there were about 230 guests present. The Archbishop of Canterbury responded to the toast of "The Episcopal Bench" proposed by the Lord Mayor, and the Bishop of London to that of "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese."

Mr. Joshua Fielden, M.P., and his brothers, Messrs. Samuel and John Fielden, have presented to the National Life-Boat Institution £2500 to defray the first cost of a life-boat establishment and permanently endow it, in memory of their uncle, the late Mr. Thomas Fielden, M.P., the well-known philanthropist, after whom the boat is to be named.

A meeting of the Erie bondholders, convened by Messrs. Ashurst and Morris, was held, on Monday, at the Cannon-street Hotel, to consider what course the bondholders should adopt under the present condition of the company. After hearing a statement from Mr. Morris, the meeting adopted two resolutions—the first declaring that a committee should be formed, and the second appointing an influential deputation to Sir Edward Watkin to invite his co-operation.

WORDING OF ACTS OF PARLIAMENT. The Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to consider whether any, and what, measures can be adopted to improve the manner and language of current legislation, has presented a long report. Objections have arisen, first, from the mode in which the bill itself is prepared, and the extent to which it varies or deals with previous statutes; second, from the uncertainty which often arises from inconsistent and ill-considered amendments; third, from the want of consolidation where groups of statutes on similar subjects are left in a state of great perplexity; and, fourth, from the absence of any better classification of the public Acts of Parliament. As a remedy for these objections the Committee advert, in the first instance, to the recommendation of the Statute Law Commissioners in 1856; that an officer or board with a sufficient staff of assistants should be appointed to superintend and advise upon bills in their passage through Parliament. It appeared to the committee, however, that the objections to such a board, recommissioned, were practically insuperable. The present system, as originally passed in 1869, of having a Parliamentary committee for the purpose of providing for the preparation of English Government measures, should in the main be adhered to. With regard to the preparation of the bill itself, it has been suggested that a breviate or short statement should accompany it, and that this breviate should point out the general object of the measure, and the particular statutes which would have to be dealt with. A breviate of this nature was usual in former times, and the Committee are of opinion that some such plan might be advantageously reverted to, at all events in those cases where the matter is complicated, or where previous legislation to any great extent is affected by it.

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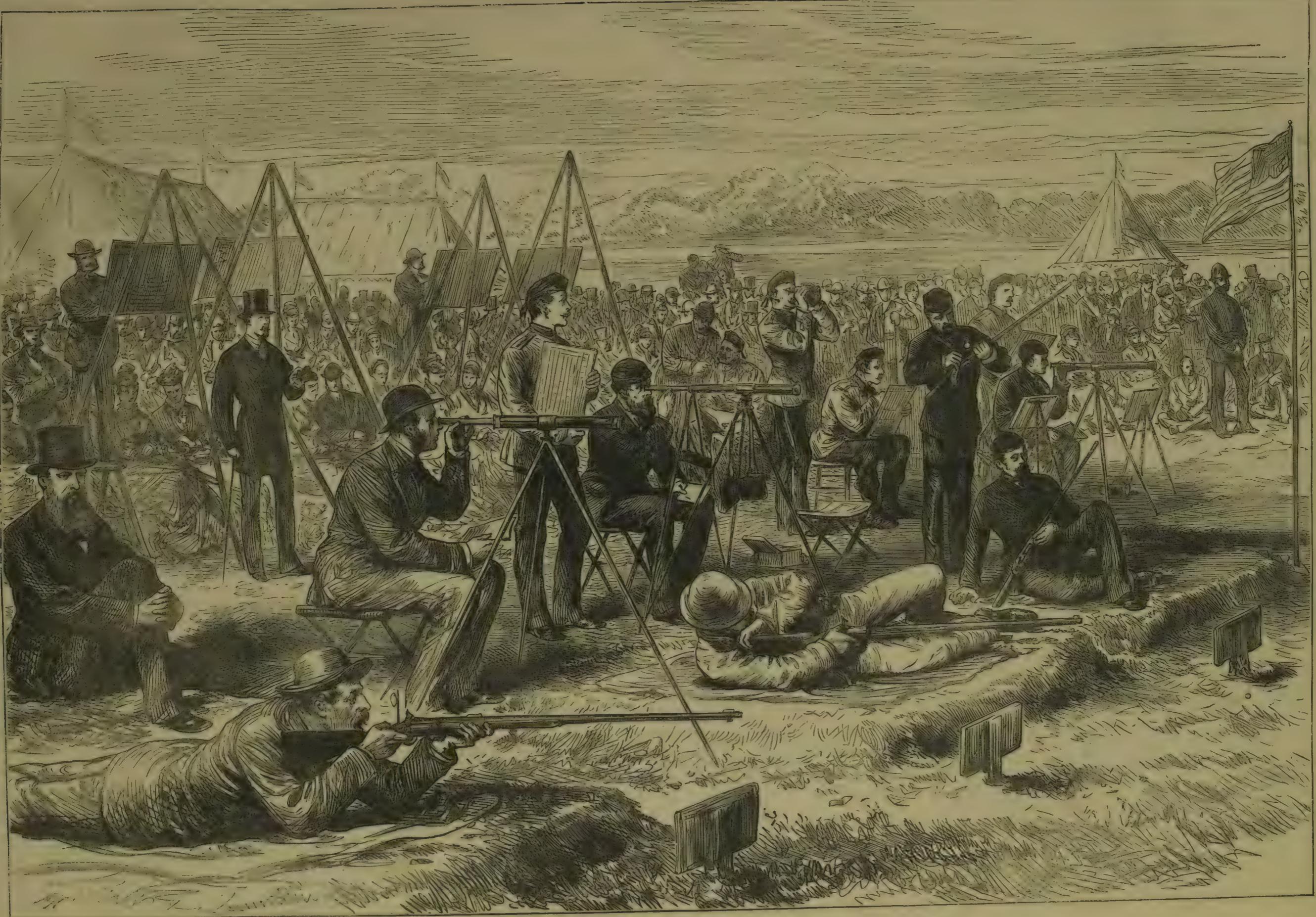
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## THE INTERNATIONAL RIFLE-MATCH AT DUBLIN.

The series of rifle-matches which took place last week near Dublin, under the management of the Irish Rifle Association, were of greater interest than any former performance of this kind in Ireland. The most remarkable contest was the International Match, on the Tuesday, between the American and the Irish teams. Forty or fifty thousand spectators assembled upon this occasion. The teams of six on each side were on the ground about eleven o'clock, and shooting at the 800-yards range commenced immediately. The conditions of the match, it should be stated, were fifteen shots each at each of the three ranges of 800, 900, and 1000 yards. No sighting shots were allowed. The targets were to be as at Wimbledon in 1872, according to which a bull's-eye counts four only. The shooting proceeded with regularity, about half an hour being allowed to elapse between the firing at 800 yards and that at 900 yards, and then an hour for lunch before the shooting at 1000 yards commenced. Excellent arrangements were made for enabling the public to keep a record of each shot as it was fired, and these facilities were largely made use of. At the close of the 800-yards shooting the Americans had made 337 and the Irish 338. At the next range the American team made an enormous stride; their score was 327, while the Irish at this range made only 292. From this point it was pretty evident that the day was lost to the Irish, and that those who had been victorious last year were again to be victors over the same opponents, although the latter were now shooting on their own ground. The shooting at 1000 yards showed a slight improvement on the part of the Irish marksmen, as they made seven more points at this range than at the previous one; but even here their total was less than that of the Americans, who scored 303. There was much cheering at the close of the match, and the two teams were followed to their tent by a large crowd, cheering lustily. In a few minutes Major Leech, captain of the Irish team, came forward and said:—"The international match has been lost and won. I suppose that a finer set of riflemen never appeared on any field; and if we Irishmen have lost, we have lost to most gallant foes. Although I need hardly tell you I should like that we had been first; still, as we are second, to no more honourable foes would I desire to accord the palm. They are distinguished gentlemen, and worthy of the honour they have achieved. I ask you to give three cheers for Colonel Gildersleeve and the American team." The cheering having subsided, there were calls for the state of the poll, and Major Leech again came forward and stated that the Americans had won by thirty-eight points. Colonel Gildersleeve then came forward, amid loud cheers, and said:—"Gentlemen, it is unnecessary for me to assure you we are very proud of the victory we have won to-day. We have had a fair field and fair play. We feel that we have been contending with the best riflemen in the world. We could not find six other men in our own country able to make the score they have made to-day. I will take this occasion to thank Major Leech for the great courtesy and attention he has shown us, and all of you for the kindness you have shown us in keeping out of our way and giving us fair play. The American team will now join in giving three cheers for Major Leech and the Irish team." Round after round of cheering was given, and the assembly dispersed. The scores made by the American team at 800 yards were—Gildersleeve 56, Yale 57, Fulton 58, Coleman 56, Bodine 52, Dakin 58; total, 337. The Irish at this range made—Wilson 58, Hamilton 56, McKenna 52, Milner 55, Johnson 58, Pollock 59; total, 338. At 900 yards the Americans' score was—Gildersleeve 56, Yale 52, Fulton 57, Coleman 48, Bodine 59, Dakin 55; total, 327. The Irish score was—Wilson 50, Hamilton 54, McKenna 44, Milner 38, Johnson 50, Pollock 53; total, 292. The American score at 1000 yards was—Gildersleeve 52, Yale 51, Fulton 56, Coleman 52, Bodine 51, Dakin 51; total, 303. The Irish score was—Wilson 55, Hamilton 51, McKenna 53, Milner 41, Johnson 56, Pollock 49; total, 299. American gross total, 967; Irish gross total, 929. Milner missed five shots, it is said through some defect in the sight of his rifle. All the Americans except Bodine fired lying on the back; he fired lying on his face and from the shoulder. The muscular firmness of his grasp was remarkable. In the evening the Lord Mayor entertained the Lord Mayors of London and York and rival teams at a banquet in the Round Room of the Mansion House. The special correspondents of four American newspapers sent telegrams by the Atlantic cable to announce the result of the international match, as soon as the shooting was over. The *New York Herald's* correspondent was foremost in their race to secure priority of dispatch for this intelligence. He galloped on horseback across the sands of Dublin Bay, in the neighbourhood of Clontarf, making a short cut to the extempore telegraph station—the waves flowing around his horse's feet, as is shown in our Illustration.

The closing competition, on Saturday last, was for the *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News* Cup, value 100 guineas. The distance was 500 yards, three shots each in succession, the bull's-eye being reduced to half the usual size. It was arranged that there should be an equal number of American and of Irish competitors, not exceeding ten of each. Nine Irishmen were prepared to shoot, but only six Americans were forthcoming. Mr. Coleman had just left the ground, and Colonel Gildersleeve had sent away his rifle. Mr. Coleman was sent for, Colonel Gildersleeve got the loan of a Rigby rifle, and General Dakin consented to shoot. This made up the requisite nine on each side. When the three shots were fired it was found that Gildersleeve and Coleman had each made three bull's-eyes. Each fired a shot, and again both made bull's-eyes. Gildersleeve again fired, but made an inner only. There was now great excitement, as it was felt by all that Coleman's shot, about to be fired, would decide the contest. The spectators crowded round the one firing point in a semicircle, and dead silence prevailed. A few seconds later, and the announcement that a bull's-eye had been made caused a cheer to be raised equal to anything that had occurred during the meeting. As the Americans had won the first and great match of the meeting, so a member of the American team won the last. In the evening the Americans appeared at a garden party at Clontarf Castle, the residence of Mr. J. E. Vernon, but were present at the distribution of prizes which took place a little later in the Exhibition Palace. The prizes were distributed by the Lady Mayoress. The Lord Mayor, who presided, said that, although the Americans had beaten them, he rejoiced that no other nation had yet been found to produce a team able to beat the Irish team. Major Leech expressed a hope that the next time there was an international rifle-match the home team would consist of three Irishmen, three Scotchmen, and three Englishmen. Colonel Gildersleeve, at the conclusion of the proceedings, presented a cup, manufactured from silver taken from the Nevada mines, valued about 100 guineas, to the Irish Rifle Association, from the American team, to be competed for annually.

The following gentlemen are selected as the Irish eight to compete for the Echo Shield at Wimbledon:—John Rigby, J. G. Pollock, Dr. Hamilton, E. Johnson, G. Fenton, J. Wilson, John Lloyd, and H. Fulton. Reserve, R. S. Greenhill.

## THE FLOODS IN FRANCE.

Some account was given last week of the enormous mischief caused a fortnight ago by the sudden overflow of the Upper Garonne and its tributaries in the Southern Departments of France, near the Pyrenees, but especially in the suburbs of Toulouse and Agen. We now present five or six additional illustrations of the scenes attending this great public disaster. To form an idea of the inundation it is necessary to glance at a map of Southern France. It will be seen that from the chain of the Pyrenees a number of streams, the chief of which are the Garonne and the Adour, run in a curve from north to north-west, west, and south-west. Most of the smaller ones run into the Garonne or the Adour. The Garonne at its source, and until very close to Toulouse, is more of a mountain torrent-river than would be supposed from its appearance in the Gironde, and near Bordeaux. About three weeks ago there was a very heavy fall of snow throughout the eastern Pyrenees. The mountains wore their winter garb for a few days, but south-westerly winds and torrents of rain came on, melted the snow, and all the streams rose immeasurably far above their levels. The towns and villages lying between the Garonne and the Adour were instantly swamped. The usual channels were an insufficient outlet, and the waters rushed down in a headlong course, carrying everything before them. Above Bordeaux whole villages were so completely destroyed that nothing remains to show where they stood save a few houses and two or three walls. The corn-fields and the vines have disappeared beneath a thick coating of mud. The loss of life has been very great. The area laid waste consists of three valleys. That of the upper streams joins the Ariège some distance above Toulouse. The valley of the Ariège joins the Garonne at Portet, a village which the meeting of the waters has entirely destroyed. None of the towns and villages between their source and Toulouse have escaped; some have been entirely destroyed—namely, Pinsaguel, Roques, Auterive, and Muret. The railway between Toulouse and Tarbes runs pretty straight in a south-westerly direction, and crosses the Garonne seven times, on as many bridges. All these bridges have been swept away by the flood. Below Toulouse the Garonne has destroyed several towns and villages; Blagnac has suffered heavily; Moissac, which lies low, has been destroyed. The village of Fenouillet, nearer Toulouse, has ceased to exist. Castel-Sarrasin, one of the most remarkable towns in Southern France, has been almost reduced to ruins; but its fine old church has escaped. The loss of life there and at Moissac has been considerable. Still further down the stream lies the town of Agen. Here the Garonne broke through the embankments and rushed through the streets with the rapidity of a torrent. In less than half an hour all the chief thoroughfares were four feet below water, and twelve hours elapsed before the stream slowly receded, leaving behind it layers of foetid mud, pregnant with pestilential fever. A number of houses were destroyed, but only ten people are supposed to have perished. Agen is a railway centre; the lines to Bordeaux, Toulouse, and Tarbes all meet there. The railroads are destroyed for a space of about eighteen miles all round. The manufacturing establishments are also destroyed, and the artisans are dependent upon public charity for their sustenance. The following particulars are given in a letter from Agen:—

"On Thursday, at four in the afternoon, the old town of Agen was suddenly flooded from two different quarters in less time than it takes to tell. The Rue Maille, St. Antoine, and St. Hilaire, the Prefecture, the Cathedral of St. Caprais (built in the eleventh century), the Quarters of St. Capras and St. Foi—in short, every part of the town—was under water; in fact, only the Jacobins' Church and its immediate neighbourhood, the Lycée, the Halls, and one or two streets escaped. In the cathedral the water was soon over five feet deep, as also in the Church of St. Foi. The college of St. Caprais was completely inundated, and railway communication with Tarbes, Toulouse, and Bordeaux cut off. The Palais de Justice was surrounded, and the magistrates escaped in boats. The Public Treasury, the Post Office, the offices of the department, and the Tax Office were quickly flooded. Most of the wretched inhabitants spent the night on the roofs of their tottering houses. One of the causes of the rapidity of the flood was the bursting of the railway embankment near Pont St. Pierre de Gaubert. Through the breach thus formed the water poured like a torrent over the then fertile plain. It would be difficult to imagine more sudden destruction. The scene is most distressing. The beautiful promenade by the river, the Gravier, where stands the statue of Jacques Jasmin, the cobbler poet, is a long line of uprooted trees, with piles of fallen houses at one end. In the streets the inhabitants are drying their furniture or pumping the water from their cellars, but they have not that sad, despairing air which was noticed at Toulouse. Agen is in difficulties, but it means to make the best of them."

The greatest amount of destruction, as stated in our last, was in the populous suburb of St. Cyprien, part of Toulouse. Three hundred persons were drowned at this place. A correspondent thus describes the scene when access was reopened to St. Cyprien: the water had nearly subsided, and a thorough exploration of the scene of the calamity became possible. "The suburb is completely destroyed. The main hospital is the only building left standing, and all the rest of the place looks as if it had been subjected first to a heavy bombardment and then not laid under water, but exposed to a fierce current of mud. The walls left standing, the ruins, even the trees—save an avenue of noble elms which intersects the suburb—are all covered with a coating of filthy slime. Some buildings are literally as completely covered in mud as Pompeii was in ashes, and from the sickening smell proceeding from these mudheaps, out of which beams, rafters, and articles of furniture protrude, there is no doubt but that there is something besides bricks and mortar beneath them. That fearfully nauseous smell with which we were so familiar in Paris during the last fight of the Commune and the week that followed almost takes one's breath away. As one enters St. Cyprien the *odor cadaueirus* is far stronger than it was in Paris in 1870, and the apprehensions entertained in Toulouse as to the consequences to the public health are only too well founded. The rush of the water must have been appalling in its violence. The few walls left standing are scored as if they had been grazed by myriads of bullets, and in some places the ground of a well-macadamised road is ploughed up as if it had been subjected to a heavy shell fire. The streams evidently swirled along in its impetuous course heavy trees and large beams and rafters, which acted like catapults or battering-rams on the small tenements of the working population. The military are actively engaged in blowing up the walls left standing. Some houses have the front walls left standing, some with curtains yet in the windows and flowers in the balconies, while the whole of the inside lies in a shapeless mass. Some of these walls are in such an unsafe condition that they cannot be blown down by dynamite, and I saw one brought down this morning by the novel process of huge stones being flung at it by a party of stalwart artillerymen. All along the larger avenues the natives collect what they have rescued from the wrecks—clothes and bedding covered with mud, kitchen utensils, clocks all begrimed and defiled by the all-pervading

mud. This wholesale destruction is not confined to St. Cyprien. The low-lying districts on the right bank of the Garonne are simply so many heaps of rubbish, but no lives were lost. There is not at the present moment a single living being that sleeps in St. Cyprien. The whole of the inhabitants have been provided with food, shelter, and raiment by the people of Toulouse; but though this is a wealthy city, it is very obvious that it cannot saddle itself with the maintenance of some 25,000 men, women, and children until their houses and the mills and factories that gave them employment are built up. The ladies of Toulouse have nobly exerted themselves in this emergency, and a committee, headed by Mesdames de Salignac, Feuvelon, de Sandrans, and others, are unremitting in their efforts to relieve the sufferers."

Such are the scenes of misery in the valley of the Garonne and its tributaries. The Garonne rises in the Vale of Luchon. The Adour, which is separated from it by a steep but narrow watershed, is a much bigger river near its source, and a much smaller one at its junction with the ocean. It runs through a town of no great size, but of high importance in a military point of view. At Tarbes the Government have installed the chief manufacture of cannon; it is a kind of French Woolwich. The Adour runs through the town, and the right and left bank communicated by a bridge. Numerous canals branch from the left bank of the river and run through the streets. The *Bien Public* of Tarbes gives the following account of the destruction of the bridge over the Adour:—

"From daybreak the entire length of the bridge had been crowded with people, too busy in watching the passage of the stream of trees, gates, articles of furniture, and other things to have any apprehension of the danger they ran. At a quarter before one some workmen, noticing the water dashing violently against the piers of the bridge and the flood attaining the crown of the arches, saw the masonry begin to open. A locksmith named Barthéz was one of the first to perceive the danger, which he instantly announced, begging the crowd to retire at once. At first no attention was paid to the warning; but some men employed at the arsenal came behind the store of M. Rozes and saw the dust fly and the mortar give way; on which a workman named Coninot hurried away and joined Barthéz in giving the alarm. Still the idea prevailed that the whole incident was a piece of pleasantry; but on seeing these two men pale and terrified the people began to leave the bridge. At that moment an oscillation was felt, and the panic reached its height. A few seconds later a detonation was heard like the firing of several pieces of artillery; it was the bridge which had given way, precipitating with it several unfortunate persons into the river. They are said only to have been four in number, and those succeeded in saving themselves; and we sincerely trust that such is the case. The crash was followed by the cries and lamentations of the populace—one calling out for his brother, another for his son; this one seeking his wife, and that woman her husband. After the first moments of terror had passed crowds hurried to cross by the railway-bridge, still intact, in order to reassure their families and friends."

It appears that the Southern Railway, which cuts in two the great plateau of Sauveterre from the Bon-Encontre station to the viaduct of Saint Pierre de Gaubert-sur-Garonne, and thence to the village of Layrac, forms a sort of dam. Four thousand metres of embankment give no opening for water to pass except the seventeen arches of the aqueduct, saving a bridge across the Estressol, by Layrac. This immense dam kept back the waters accumulated in the plains of Sauveterre, Saint Nicolas, Saint Jean de Thuirac, and Ostende. It drove the flood into the Garonne Canal, and this caused, apparently, the partial inundation of Agen. The embankment burst, and let through the enormous mass of water. No alarm having been given, many people still had doubts about their peril. The shops were open, merchandise in all the windows. In a few moments the *barrières* of Boé, Quinault, and California vanished under water. The suburbs, the Route Neuve, Trenac, the Plate-forme, the prisons, the Palais de Justice, the Prefecture, the Grand Seminary, and Descayrac shared the same fate. By the broad streets Porte Neuve, Saint Jean, du Temple, and Saint Gilles, the flood reached the centre of the town. It covered the whole town during thirty-six hours, reaching to the second floors, while nearly the whole population was on the roofs. Every now and then ominous cracking noises were heard, followed by dull sounds as of distant explosions; this was the houses which were giving way. An unfortunate circumstance was that at the time of the inundation there were only three or four boats on that part of the Garonne, and during eight hours it was by these boats only that all the scenes were effected. At last a little town, Villeneuve, nearly twenty miles from Agen, hastily sent some boats by railway. It was Villeneuve also that for two days supported Agen, sending it 20,000 kilogrammes of bread. At present no bread is eaten but that made in the prisons, for all the other ovens in the town are destroyed. A boarding-school for young ladies, the Convent of Notre Dame de Nevers, was threatened with death by famine. For thirty-six hours the poor girls remained on the roofs, hemmed in by the water, and not having a morsel of bread in the house. A very touching death was that of a householder, M. Ducoineau, and his wife. Ruin threatened their house, and for a long time they called in vain for help; the current was too strong, no boat could reach them. At last a terrible cracking sound was heard, and the house opened in two. M. Ducoineau and his wife were on their knees awaiting death. At the last moment they threw themselves into each other's arms, and their bodies were found clasped together.

It is noted as a strange coincidence that the great overflows of the Garonne have happened every twenty years since the beginning of this century—1815, 1835, 1853, and 1875 are dates of great disaster on that river bank. The Loire and the Rhône are said, upon evidence less clear, to be dangerous every ten years: 1846 and 1856 bear out this calculation, and the superstitious are growing alarmed already at next year's peril. Were it reasonable to suppose that floods are really periodic, the official reports of disaster which begin to come forward would justify a panic. In 1770 a damage of £800,000 was calculated; in 1855, £960,000. Neither of these calamities approached that before us either in height of the overflow or in the damage. The best accounts differ as to the maximum of the flood. Some put it at 37 ft. 2 in., others at 38 ft.

We have received the following from a correspondent at Bagnères de Bigorre:—

"There had been incessant heavy rains for three days, which had so swelled the Adour, always a rapid torrent, that terrible mischief has ensued. Yesterday the railway bridge was for some time in danger; it is a splendid one, of marble. Men were nearly all day employed in strengthening the embankment leading to it by throwing down blocks of stone and slates. The trains came over (most of them an hour late) at a foot's pace, some of the passengers alighting and preferring to walk across. There is another very fine marble bridge—everything is marble here—a little higher up the river, on the Toulouse road. We were not allowed to go upon that, or to approach a low wall to look over into the rushing torrent. The gendarmes told us it was

dangerous, and might go at any moment. I thought them over careful; but to-day, on going there again, a great piece of this very wall is carried away. We have just returned from walking a little way up the Campan valley, one of the loveliest in the Pyrenees, and where, little more than a week ago, we drove along as far as the village of Campan to see a curious old church. The river then was a beautiful torrent, clear and crystal-like; now it is raging down, carrying large trees with it, and can be compared in colour to nothing but yeast. We could only go a little way, for the beautiful wide road is no longer there; it is quite washed away for about 200 yards, and we found gendarmes stationed to prevent people going into dangerous places. Large plane-trees have been cut down and made to fall into the water to try to break the force of the stream against the road. One tree is anchored in the river by ropes. It was carried so far by the torrent, until they stopped it for fear it would injure the bridge below. One house there is undermined and in danger; it is quite abandoned. We climbed up behind this on a steep hill, and joined the road again; but time would not allow of our going further to see other bridges which have been thrown down by the force of the water. Such a scene of desolation I never saw, and never wish to see again. We met some poor peasants carrying their chairs, tables, and chests of drawers, some carrying loads of crockery on their heads, and all looking very sad. One poor woman I noticed with a child in one arm and a cradle in the other, and one old woman had quite a load of crockery-ware balanced on her head and some garden-stuff in her hand. They were coming into Bagneres, hoping to find shelter, I suppose. But what is almost worse than the road being swept away is that the water brought in, on a higher level than the river, to supply the mill-wheels in the town, has been entirely diverted from its course through the wall giving way, so that its bed is now dry and every mill stopped, throwing marble-works out of work. We went the other day to see some small marble-works, the wheel of which to move the saws for cutting the blocks was worked by two dogs. We thought it very cruel, as there was such a quantity of water-power close at hand; and we told the woman so, but she said the dogs were strong, and she always let them rest for some time every now and then. The old lady must be triumphing over her neighbours now, I think. It will be a very long time before this fine bit of road, which goes to Luchon, can be repaired so that carriages will be able to pass. We hear there are some railway bridges gone between Tarbes and Pau, so that in order to get here from Pau you must go up as far as Monceux—rather a roundabout way, taking nearly twelve hours instead of six. The weather now has brightened, and the afternoon has been lovely. The river has gone down much since last evening. One of the curious things was to hear the rumbling noise of the immense great stones in the bed of the river. Only a few days ago we were looking at some enormous boulders, which were then quite exposed to view, and speculating on what a gigantic force must have been required to bring them there. I can understand it better now. Rather more than a fortnight ago we had intensely hot weather and two sharp shocks of earthquake—not a very unusual thing, though they had not experienced any for more than two years. To-morrow we intend to get further up the Campan valley to see the ruins of the two bridges."

The illustration on our front page shows the scene in the Faubourg St. Cyprien, at Toulouse, when Marshal MacMahon, President of the French Republic, with M. Buffet, General Cissey, and the Prefect of the Department, visited the ruins of that suburb. Marshal MacMahon distributed rewards and decorations to many officers and soldiers, and other persons who had shown great courage, activity, and endurance in their efforts to save life. The heroic example of the Marquis d'Hautpoul has been much commented upon; he was drowned with others in a boat while endeavouring to rescue the poor people at Toulouse. Some additional sketches have reached us, which may, perhaps, appear in our next. The Lord Mayor of London called together a preliminary meeting at the Mansion House, on Monday, to collect subscriptions for the relief of the many thousands of suffering families. Cardinal Manning, and M. Gavard, the French Chargé d'Affaires, were among those who took part in the meeting. An executive committee was appointed to manage this charitable fund.

#### EMIGRATION TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Nothing in the history of the world is more remarkable than the colonising capacity of the inhabitants of the United Kingdom. Continental empires can raise huge armies for mutual destruction, but the Anglo-Saxon race alone has been able to send forth armies of emigrants to people distant portions of the globe, and found new empires where the English language and English manners, customs, virtues—and, maybe, vices as well—have taken firm root. What the great North American continent has already become through the instrumentality of the English-speaking race, the great Australian continent, as well as New Zealand, is destined to become in future ages. Without any cost to the mother country, flourishing communities have already been founded at the antipodes, which are being constantly added to by a never-ceasing stream of emigration from these shores. Of late years Queensland and New Zealand have promoted emigration on a much larger scale than the other Australian colonies. Victoria does not at present spend any money on the importation of labour; New South Wales does not offer free passages, but only give partial assistance to intending emigrants. In South Australia also a serious check was given to emigration when gold was first discovered in Victoria, owing to a large exodus of the male population to the gold diggings, by which that colony temporarily lost the labour of the very men who had been brought out there at the expense of the colony. The inexorable logic of supply and demand has, however, within the last few years counteracted the tendency of migration from one colony to another: the producing industries of South Australia have offered sufficient wages to the labouring classes, which not only have brought back to South Australia a large proportion of those who had formerly left that colony, but have also increased the demand of labour to such an extent that a strong feeling in favour of the resumption of free emigration is, according to late accounts, manifesting itself there. A few free passages are even now given to that colony. Facilities are given to settlers there to nominate their relatives and friends for passages by a moderate contribution towards the passage money; and for the small payment of £4, mechanics and labourers can always obtain passages as well. The illustration of the fine new ship *Hespérides*, which we engrave, shows that the colonial authorities spare no expense in selecting the finest type of ship for the conveyance of emigrants, to ensure the comfort and health of the emigrants on the passage out. This fine ship, of 1330 tons register, classed as A 1, is on her first voyage, and was dispatched from Plymouth to Port Adelaide on May 14, with 396 souls, equal to 361 statute adults. The ship was built at Sunderland, by Messrs. Short Brothers, and is owned by Messrs. J. Patton, jun., and Co., 3, White Lion Court, Cornhill, who chartered her to the Agent-General for South Australia,

Mr. Francis Dutton. The emigrants are under the care of Dr. M. Blood, T.C.D., surgeon-superintendent, who is a native of South Australia, and the single young women, of whom there are 121, on board, are under the special care of an experienced matron, Mrs. Rogers, who has made many voyages in a similar capacity. Notwithstanding the large number of emigrants embarked, they are all most comfortably berthed; the between decks of the ship are lofty, and with considerable beam, affording ample space and excellent ventilation. The single young women are in the afterpart of the ship, entirely separated from the other emigrants; the married people have the centre compartment; and the single young men the forward compartment. Great improvements have lately been introduced in the construction of the berths for the married couples, by which entire privacy is secured for each couple. The *Hespérides* is the seventy-ninth ship which has conveyed emigrants to South Australia since 1862, during which period 16,981 souls have been sent from this country to the colony.

#### ADDRESSES AND LECTURES.

By permission of the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, a number of ladies and gentlemen assembled in the hall of Sutherland House, on Thursday week, to witness a display of models of the Tabernacle and of the vestments and apparatus employed by the early Jews in connection with their religion, and to hear a lecture in reference thereto by Dr. Cronage, of Wellington, Salop. The whole discourse was an endeavour to explain the symbols of the Bible, and to give them a significance in the acts and ceremonies of the Gospel and the Atonement.

The last of the educational lectures on the principles of botanical classification was given by Professor Bentley to the Botanical Society yesterday week. The best proof that the lectures are appreciated is to be found in the fact that the attendance was kept up well throughout. The illustrations, both by diagrams and by actual plants, were plentiful.

Captain Wilson, R.N., read a paper, yesterday week, before the Royal United Service Institution on the Training of the Seamen of the Fleet, and how it is affected by marines being employed afloat in time of peace. The gallant officer expressed the opinion that our bluejackets are very inadequately trained and imperfectly disciplined, being inferior in these respects to French men-of-war men, and probably inferior also to the Russians. Nearly half our seamen are rusting in home ports, and to give them a better opportunity of sea training he suggests that the marines now afloat should garrison our naval ports, and that the bluejackets should take their place.

Professor Humphrey, M.D., presided, yesterday week, at the meeting of the East Anglican Branch of the British Medical Association, held at Cambridge. In his opening address the president alluded to the progress of sanitary science, and the assistance it had received from the University of Cambridge. He also made practical suggestions for economising valuable knowledge accruing from post-mortem examinations.

The last of the Christian Evidence Society's course of lectures for the present season at St. George's Hall was delivered yesterday week by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, his subject being, "Evidence to the truth of Christianity supplied by the answers which it gives to the deepest questions relating to human life, as contrasted with the answers given by other systems." The chair was taken by the Archbishop of York. Bishop Ellicott stated that he meant to inquire what answer is given by Christianity, and what answers by other systems, to those questions which men cannot help asking themselves, What and whence am I? Why and for what? Whither go I? In other words, he proposed to consider the origin and nature of man; the moral meaning of human life in relation to surrounding circumstances? Man's purpose and man's future. He began by considering the scriptural and Christian answer given to the questions, What and whence am I? viz., that man formed out of the dust was made in the image of God, and that all nations of men are of one blood. The scripture giving the only reasonable account of our instinctive belief in the unity of humanity, in the brotherhood of man. The Bishop contrasted with this the answer given by the theory of evolution by natural selection, pointing out the demands made by the latter upon our powers of belief, and indicating its unsatisfactory character. The consideration of the question Why am I? the lecturer omitted for want of time, and proceeded to consider the next question, for What am I? He showed that the Christian answer is to do the will of God for the love of God, the main difference between this and the answers that have been given by other religious systems lying in the motive for conduct, fear and self-interest being substituted by them for love. Philosophical systems for the most part either give no distinct answer to the question, or urge mere self-abnegation, life finding its termination in Nirvana. The lecturer, in connection with this, examined the pessimist theory of Hartmann, who urges men to have as little to do with life as possible, and who represents as our final aim absorption into the unconscious intelligence of the universe. Bishop Ellicott examined, in the third place, the answers given to the question, Whither go I? What is man's future after this life is ended? and contrasted the intelligible answers given by Christianity with the unsatisfactory and hesitating answers supplied elsewhere. A most hearty vote of thanks to Bishop Ellicott for his very able and comprehensive lecture (of which the above is only an imperfect outline) was proposed by the Archbishop of York and seconded by Dr. Jobson; and, a vote of thanks to the chairman having been proposed by Lord Harrowby and seconded by General Burrows, the Archbishop pronounced the benediction.

Dean Stanley distributed, last Saturday, the prizes which have been won in the summer session of 1874 and the winter session of 1874-5 by the students of the Medical and Surgical College of St. Thomas's Hospital, the ceremony being held in the Governors' Hall in the presence of a large company of ladies and gentlemen. In opening the proceedings Sir Francis Hicks, the treasurer of the hospital, who presided, mentioned that the president, Sir John Musgrave, had founded a scholarship of the annual value of £40, and that three more—two of £40 and the other of £60—had been founded by the medical staff and lecturers of the college. Among the recipients of the prizes J. F. Nicholson, Brigg, Lincolnshire, held a very distinguished place. He was the most successful second year's student in the summer session and the most successful third year's student in the winter session, and he won also the Cheshelden medal in surgery and surgical anatomy, the Mead medal in practical medicine, and the Treasurer's gold medal for general proficiency and good conduct. The second year's students who carried off college prizes in the winter session were C. E. Sheppard, South Kensington; F. H. Weeks, Southampton; and W. H. Battle, Hanwell, Lincolnshire. There were also a number of special prizes awarded for proficiency in different departments of hospital work. When the distribution was over Dean Stanley delivered a short address. An allusion had been made to Wordsworth's

lines on the view from Westminster Bridge, and he observed that the view was remarkable as embracing three famous palaces. One was the palace of the Imperial Legislature, another the palace of the Primate of all England, and the third, exceeding in magnitude either of the others, and exceeding them, not, perhaps, in fame or in interest, but certainly in its direct benefice to mankind, was the palace of the poor and suffering in which they were met. St. Thomas's Hospital was of Royal foundation. It was founded by one of the best beloved of English Sovereigns, who was himself an eager student, and who was cut off in the student time of life. Hospitals, more than, perhaps, other institutions, survived the shocks and convulsions of time. St. Thomas's, which had come into existence in the troubled times of the Reformation, had, with the exception of its change of locality, preserved its object and its purpose absolutely unchanged. He had been very much struck on visiting the town of Angers by finding still in existence a hospital which had been founded by our own Henry II, and which alone of all the institutions of Angers had remained unchanged in its purpose and object throughout all the violent convulsions and revolutions of that most changeful of countries. Turning to the occasion of the present meeting, he thought nothing could be more delightful to contemplate than a number of young men who were growing up to devote themselves to a career which had for its immediate aim the good of the human race. Among all the great professions, that of medicine, and, he might add, that to which he himself belonged, had direct benefice in a peculiar degree for their object. A distinguished and experienced friend once said to him, taking all the various classes of students into account, he believed the very best specimen was the best kind of medical student (Cheers from the students). He was not sure, however, that it might not be equally true that the worst specimen of a student was the worst kind of medical student (Laughter). A young man who had a heart within his breast and a brain in his head could not but derive lasting benefit from attending the sick and suffering. Experience showed that, so far from that occupation deadening the sympathies, it had, in a good man, the very opposite effect. Moreover, physicians and surgeons, instead of having their minds lowered by their attention being fixed on the outward physical frame, were, perhaps more than other persons, led to feel the difference, the everlasting difference, between what was external and what was inward and spiritual. The superiority of the moral nature of man seemed to him the guiding star which ought to conduct through all the various difficulties that were sometimes thought in these days to attend scientific speculation. If they held fast to the belief in the pre-eminence of the moral nature of man; if they recognised that charity, purity, and justice were the things that were most glorious in this world and in the next, it became comparatively of very little importance what was the connection of these with our outward frame, and what might have been the physical condition of our great-great-grandfathers many thousand years ago. That guiding principle would be a guarantee for our good conduct, and also for the stability of our intellects, amid all the various changes and speculations of this speculative, advancing, but in some respects retrogressive age (Cheers).

Mr. John Landesman gave an address, last Saturday, at No. 4, Fitzroy-square, the residence of Captain Evans, on the Fertility of the Valley of the Amazon and its suitability as a place of emigration. The chair was occupied by Colonel J. W. Forney, Commissioner from the United States to Europe for the Philadelphia Exposition. Mr. Landesman gave a most glowing account of the fertility and resources of the Amazon Valley and the surrounding regions. Its adaptability for production deserved not only the attention of those present, but, through them, of far larger circles—in fact, not only of the British public, but of the whole of Europe. Having described the mode of reaching the region referred to, commencing with Liverpool as the starting-point, and reaching Para, a town of some 30,000 or 40,000 inhabitants, under the Line, which had been called the Liverpool of the Tropics, he proceeded to describe in detail the wonderful natural capabilities of the soil, which only required the energies of the northern race and a little organisation to develop them. At present agriculture was dead and the commerce was small, the male population being mostly engaged in gathering rubber, which was a lucrative occupation. The great want of the country was labour, intelligence, and a little capital; for the natural wealth of the country was practically unbounded, whilst the climate was that of perpetual summer, the temperature varying from 73 deg. to 90 deg. Epidemic diseases were not more frequent than in other countries. After the address a brief discussion of a conversational character ensued. On a side table were several specimens of the timber grown in the Valley of the Amazon, almost unknown in the markets of Europe.

At the India Museum, South Kensington, on Tuesday afternoon, a numerous company assembled to hear Dr. Leitner explain the nature and contents of his collection of Gracoo-Buddhistic sculptures.

At the ordinary monthly meeting of the Archaeological Society, on Tuesday evening, two short papers, both relating to Assyrian antiquities, were read—the first, by Mr. H. F. Talbot, F.R.S., being a translation of an imperfect tablet in the cuneiform character, describing a panic terror, possibly arising from the visible approach of the Deluge. This paper, in the absence of the author, was read by Dr. Birch, the president of the society. The second paper, read by the author, Mr. W. Boscawen, was an account of an early Chaldaean inscription, a portion of which was discovered by Mr. George Smith during his latest exploration. No discussion followed the reading of either of the papers, but Dr. Birch, in bringing the business of the evening to a close, took occasion to remark on the fact that, at present, research is being directed almost wholly towards Assyrian history, a not less interesting field of inquiry—that of the mythology of the Assyrians—being left unexplored.

On Monday the Railway Commissioners gave judgment in a case in which complaint was made that the rates charged by the Great Eastern Railway Company for the carriage of coal between Great Yarmouth and Peterborough and Great Yarmouth and Ipswich were unreasonably greater than rates charged by them to merchants at Peterborough and elsewhere for the carriage of coal. The Commissioners held that the complaint of the man in the manner in which the scale was graduated had not been sustained.

Mr. John K. Ingram writes to the *Times* from Trinity College, Dublin, to call attention to the case of a great-niece of the poet Goldsmith, living in Dublin. She is eighty-five years old, and is suffering from ill-health and extreme poverty, her whole maintenance being a weekly allowance of 4s. from a charitable fund. The writer's object is to obtain a fund sufficient to afford her during her remaining term of life a reasonable weekly allowance, and to provide necessary articles for her personal use. Donations on her behalf will be received and acknowledged by Mrs. Lloyd, Provost's House, Trinity College, Dublin, or by the Very Rev. the Dean of the Chapel Royal, Dublin Castle.



THE INTERNATIONAL RIFLE-MATCH NEAR DUBLIN: AMERICAN NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS RIDING TO THE TELEGRAPH STATION.



REVIEW OF CANADIAN MILITIA AT CAMP NIAGARA.



"PRAYER." BY S. F. LYNN, A.R.H.A.  
IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE IRISH ACADEMY.



"TREASURE TROVE." BY G. HALSE.  
IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.



THE SULTAN OF ZANZIBAR VISITING MESSRS. ELKINGTON'S FACTORY AT BIRMINGHAM.

## A CANADIAN MILITIA CAMP.

The camp of militia, drawn from several counties in the province of Ontario, Upper Canada, included in the Second Military District, assembled at Niagara during the first part of last month, and was inspected on the 10th ult. by Major-General Selby Smith. He came from Prince Edward's Island, the extreme eastern point of the vast Canadian Dominion, and was on his way directly across the Continent to British Columbia, its extreme western shore. The troops collected at Niagara, which is close to the United States' frontier, were the Queen's Own (Toronto) Rifles, the 13th (Hamilton), 19th (St. Catherine's), 20th (Milton), 37th (York), 38th (Brantford), 39th (Simcoe), 44th (Clifton), and 77th battalions of infantry, with cavalry and artillery. A large number of spectators arrived by the steam-boats from Toronto, Hamilton, St. Catherine's, Port Dalhousie, Queenstown, and other places on Lake Erie. The forces were drawn up in two columns between the town of Niagara and the landing-place. They went through the manoeuvres of a sham fight, which resulted in the defeat of the supposed attacking force. After this performance they were addressed by General Selby Smith in terms of encouragement and general approval, being the first camp of colonial militia that he had seen. The illustration we give is from a sketch by Mr. F. M. Bell Smith, an artist of Toronto.

## SCULPTURE.

Two marble groups, one from the exhibition of the Royal Academy in London, the other from that of the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin, are represented in our illustrations. The one by Mr. G. Halse, which he calls "Treasure Trove," is the poetical notion of a "joyful surprise" in the discovery of "a babe forlorn," left in the ferny glade of the wild wood, on a fair summer morning, for Miss Nellie or any other chance passer-by to take care of, at her own pleasure and discretion. Mr. S. F. Lynn, in the work he has exhibited in Dublin, gives effect to the tender and sacred idea of a young mother engaged in teaching her child to pray to their common Divine Parent. These sculptures are both works of considerable artistic merit, and worthy of a place in this Journal.

## THE SULTAN OF ZANZIBAR.

The provincial tour of his Highness the Seyyid Burghash bin Said, ruler of Zanzibar, among our commercial and manufacturing towns in the North of England, began on Friday week. He went to Birmingham that day, accompanied by the Rev. Dr. G. Percy Badger, Dr. Kirk, and Mr. Clement Hill, and was received by Alderman Biggs, the Deputy Mayor. In the afternoon he visited the glassworks of Messrs. Osler, the factory of the Birmingham Small Arms Company, and the flower-show of the Midland Horticultural Society at Aston Park. On Saturday he visited the silver and electro-plate works of Messrs. Elkington in Newhall-street. The streets through which he passed were lined with spectators, who repeatedly cheered the visitors. Mr. A. J. Elkington and Mr. Rolason, the manager, received the Sultan at the works, and conducted him through the show-room. Here numerous objects of art and value were submitted for his examination, including a beautiful silver prize cup for a Scotch Rifle regiment, the Brighton Race Cup for 1874, valued at 400 guineas, a Burmese electro-plate dinner service, various dessert-services in gold and silver, and admirable specimens of cloisonné enamelling in the Japanese style. Among other works of art which especially interested the visitors were a facsimile of the famous Milton Shield, with subjects in repoussé illustrative of the "Paradise Lost," and the famous Hellecon vase, in silver and steel repoussé, enriched with damascened gold tracery, and valued at £6000. In the designing and modelling rooms, presided over by Mr. Williams, his Highness was shown the designs of various works in process of execution. In the manufactory itself he witnessed the mechanical processes by which they are wrought out. The Sultan appeared much interested in the electro-depositing. Our illustration shows his astonishment at seeing a piece of iron melted by the electric force in the apparatus belonging to this department of the factory. On reaching the gilding-room his Highness was instructed in the manner of gilding several silver coins, which were afterwards presented to him. On leaving the works he observed that the word "Birmingham" reminded him of the Arabic word "Birminham," which meant a "well of them," and that Birmingham appeared to be truly a well of rare and wonderful things. From Messrs. Elkington's the Seyyid's party was driven to the glassworks of Messrs. Chance, where he was much interested in the lighthouse apparatus, and several processes of glass manufacture. The afternoon was far advanced when his Highness left the glassworks, and, as he was rather fatigued, he then returned to his hotel. On Sunday he took advantage of the fine weather to drive round the suburbs, with which he professed himself greatly pleased. He left Birmingham for Liverpool on Monday morning, saw the docks on Tuesday, and Messrs. Laird's shipbuilding works, and was entertained at the Townhall by the Mayor, Lieut.-Colonel Steble. His Highness visited Manchester on Thursday.

The Chancery Masonic Lodge, intended to commemorate the connection of the poet with Southwark, was consecrated yesterday week, at the Bridge House Hotel.

Captain Tyler, in his official return relating to the railways of the United Kingdom, states that last year the number of persons killed on the various lines was 1424, and of injured 5041. Of these, 211 killed and 1981 injured were passengers; of the remainder, 788 killed and 2815 injured were officers or servants of the companies or contractors; and 425 killed and 215 injured were trespassers, suicides, or others who met with accidents.

The *Wreck Register* for the year ending June 30, 1874, shows that the total number of wrecks reported as having occurred during the year on the coasts of the United Kingdom was 1803, which was 481 less than in the previous year. Of these 1803 wrecks, 381 were collisions, and 1422 were wrecks and casualties other than collisions, and 346 of them resulted in total loss. The localities in which the wrecks happened were as follows:—East coast, 716; south coast, 241; west coast, 545; north and west coast of Scotland, 66; Irish coast, 213; Isle of Man, 7; Lundy Island, 5; and Scilly Isles, 10. The number of lives lost was 506, which was 222 less than the number lost in the six months ending June 30, 1873; but the loss of 293 lives by the sinking of the Northfleet, in the early part of 1873, will account for the large number of deaths reported in the first half of that year. The number of wrecks of British vessels abroad reported in 1873-4 was 3094, involving the loss of 4013 lives. This total was swelled by the loss of 821 lives in the ship Asia, and of 420 in the ship Asia, both of which vessels were engaged in the coolie trade. One hundred and fifty British ships were not heard of after sailing or being spoken at sea, and 2381 lives are supposed to have been lost in them. Of these vessels, 115 belonged to the United Kingdom, and 35 to British possessions abroad.

## NEW BOOKS.

Extremely interesting in parts, but a little bewildering and sickening to the whole, is the medley of autobiography, memoranda, correspondence, and political and historical facts contained in the lately-published first volume of the *Life of William, Earl of Shelburne, afterwards First Marquess of Lansdowne*: by Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice (Macmillan and Co.). It is extremely interesting, because it deals with personages and events of peculiar prominence at an especially momentous period of our history; it is a little bewildering, because what might have been a clear, straightforward narrative, in which the main purpose of writing a particular person's life should have been carried out in regular and uninterrupted order is, for good reasons, an imperfectly assorted heap of material; and it is a little sickening, because it exhibits in particularly strong and striking colours such pettinesses and sordid motives on the part of men in high places as are calculated to make the reader doubt whether a great nation might not just as well be governed by its flunkies as by anybody else. It is interesting, but it is not edifying, to read the long account of the quarrel between Fox and Shelburne, arising from conduct which Bute is said to have justified by calling it a "pious fraud," and of which Fox is reported to have said "I can see the fraud; but where is the piety?" It is interesting, but it is not edifying, to read that Sir Thomas Clark, Master of the Rolls, said, speaking to Sir Eardley Wilmot about William Murray, the "great" Lord Mansfield, "You and I have lived long in the world, and of course have met with a great many liars, but did you ever know such a liar as Will Murray?" and that, in Lord Shelburne's own opinion, "like the generality of Scotch, Lord Mansfield had no regard to truth whatever." It is interesting, but it is not edifying, to come once more upon the old, sad story of the murdered Byng, and find it coolly and curtly recorded that the Admiral was "shot very unjustly, as everybody agreed, owing entirely to Lord Hardwicke, to turn the unpopularity from his son-in-law, Lord Anson." It is interesting, but not edifying, to have Lord Shelburne's account of the notorious Lord George Sackville; and it is interesting, but not edifying, to be warned in a note that any bitterness of expression in a memorandum of Lord Shelburne's may be naturally attributed to personal enmity. Historical and biographical works must, no doubt, at the risk of nauseating iteration, sift stories and characters from time to time, together with the evidence for and against; but the effect is likely to be somewhat depressing. In the preface a curious anecdote is told, showing on what apparently incomprehensible grounds a secret may rely for preservation. Lord Shelburne, then Lord Lansdowne, is reported to have promised, just a week before he died, that, if he lived "over the summer," he would write "a very interesting pamphlet about Junius," would put his name to it, and would set that question at rest for ever; he added, that "none of the parties ever guessed at as Junius was the true Junius;" and he concluded by saying, "I knew him, and knew all about it; and I pledge myself, if these legs will permit me, to give a pamphlet on the subject as soon as I feel myself equal to the labour." But surely a state of legs, however unsatisfactory, which permitted him to talk so much would have allowed him just to whisper a name, about to be divulged by himself when the summer was over, especially as he did not expect to live over the summer, to a confidant empowered to reveal it in case the apprehended death should occur. And so a secret, which, but for a grotesquely inadequate reason, would have been revealed in 1805, has gone on exercising the minds of the curious up to the present day. One of the advantages of such a work as that under consideration, in which the orthography and grammar of the period are preserved, is, from the literary point of view, that transitions of usage can be marked by the attentive reader, to whom his ancestors, judged by the rules of his own day, would seem, in their own parlance, to "have wrote excessive bad English." A second volume—to be published, it is hoped, before long—may be expected to be even more interesting than this first: for it is to contain, besides important political matters, "a picture of the society of which Bowood was the centre during the latter part of the (eighteenth) century" and a description of "the connection of Priestley, Price, and Bentham with Lord Shelburne."

That an introductory memoir should be more charming than the pages which it precedes is not contrary altogether to experience; but, when it is so, the reason is generally based upon some shortcoming of the author or some dulness or other blemish in the work; but this does not hold as regards *Last Letters from Egypt*, by Lady Duff Gordon, with a memoir by her daughter, Mrs. Ross (Macmillan and Co.), of which it may be said that nothing, except the introductory memoir, could be much more charming than the letters. But the chief charms of the introduction differ from those of the letters: in the former we find ourselves rather touched than amused, in the latter rather amused than touched, though in both there is that which causes both sensations: in the former we have familiar names, old memories, and, for the most part, European surroundings, but in the latter various novelties of Egypt and of South Africa, for to the "last letters from Egypt" there have been added "letters from the Cape." The memoir of Lady Duff Gordon, who was the only child of the celebrated John Austin and Sara his wife, and who was the playmate of John Stuart Mill and the "grossbritannische Göttin" of Heinrich Heine, conjures up the shade of many another departed celebrity; but it is written with excellent taste and self-restraint, when the temptation must have been great to indulge in filial regrets and pride. It contains the letter, already published by Lord Houghton, in which Lady Duff Gordon's affecting account is given of her last interview with the dying Heine. The way in which Miss Austin became Lady Duff Gordon is very simply and quaintly described. It appears that Sir Alexander Duff Gordon one day said to her, "Miss Austin, do you know people say we are going to be married?" Whereupon, in her annoyance at being talked about and at his blunt manner of telling her, she was about to give a sharp reply, when he added, "Shall we make it true?" a question which she answered, with characteristic straightforwardness, by the monosyllable, "Yes." Equally good is the story about Hassan, a black boy whom she had charitably taken into her service, and who, in his gratitude, so identified himself with the family that, "on the birth of a son, he said triumphantly to all callers, 'We have got a boy!'" As for the letters, whether from Egypt or the Cape, they are wonderfully picturesque, vivacious, and entertaining; they are full of detail and just observations; and they bear testimony to the writer's generosity of heart and simplicity of mind as well as common sense and uncommon cleverness.

One of the most extraordinary books ever published, as regards purpose, matter, method, or style, competes for popularity in the two volumes entitled *The North Star and the Southern Cross*, being the personal experiences, impressions, and observations of Margaretha Wepner, in a two years' journey round the world (Sampson Low and Co.). There is, it will be observed, in the very title a sort of affectation which fore-shadows the style of writing occasionally, and not with an agreeable effect, adopted. Highly commendable was the pur-

pose with which the writer conceived and carried out her idea of putting a girdle about the world and a record upon paper of her experiences during the process. "The dearest wish of my life," she says, "was to better the position of my poor mother by the proceeds of a good enter-taining book." But what is highly commendable as a wish may be exceedingly wild and risky as an undertaking; and, at any rate, it was the height of rashness, as some folks may think, to begin a "journey round the world from Paris, with seven and a half francs and two hundred francs' indebtedness;" it would be madness for even Una herself to calculate upon "a little grey-haired old man, such as Providence had often and always à propos" thrown in the reckless writer's way. Nor would it be quite fair, even if they were likely to be often repeated, to count upon the free-passes and reductions of fare which seem to have been obtainable by the writer, who boasts: "while traversing four continents, I have only stayed in hotels three times—a fact proving that I have met kind and hospitable people in every land. By men of every nation I have been trusted as to the honest motive of my purpose, and they have nobly assisted me. Railway and steam-ship companies have treated me most generously, and from Paris through America, Asia, and Africa, back to my home, I have paid for but one steam-ship ticket out of my own purse, viz.—on a steamer from Hong-Kong to Canton, belonging to a German firm at Hong-Kong." There is a significance in this mention of the firm's nationality; for notwithstanding the fair writer's remarks at the end of her second volume, she will most assuredly appear to ordinary readers to have seldom lost an opportunity of abusing her own countrymen, the Germans. That her expedition, conducted on the principle of gratuitous travelling—which is, perhaps, even more trying to the temper of nationalities than the gallant Sergeant Bates' habit of waving the star-spangled banner under everybody's nose—should have exposed her to the insults of a few ruffians is not to be wondered at so much as to be regretted. They were sometimes of such a nature that she would have been perfectly justified, from motives of delicacy, in leaving them unpublish'd; but she displays no prudery in her own or in anybody else's case. The introductory portions of her narrative, before her travels began, are, from their marvellous character, eminently adapted to pave the way for the rest. What is related is so very uncommon (for the revelations of the police reports may, it is to be hoped, be considered uncommon), that, if gallantry did not forbid, and if truth were not notoriously stranger than fiction, there might be an inclination to suspect the writer of romancing. The volumes contain little that is either new or valuable touching the countries visited; but, independently of the general impressions and observations reported, there are particular statements of fact which deserve the attention of the gentlemen especially interested in the question of conventional establishments.

## AUSTRALIAN EXPLORATION.

When Mr. Giles left Adelaide early in December it was announced that the objects of his expedition were to examine a block of country lying about a hundred miles from the coast line of the Great Australian Bight, with a view of ascertaining its pastoral capabilities, and subsequently to achieve, if possible, his long-cherished purpose of crossing the continent to the settled districts of Western Australia.

The first part of this programme is accomplished. Mr. Giles reached Finess Springs on April 14, and has telegraphed, as follows:—"On March 24 left Youldeh, which lies 135 miles north-north-west from Fowler's Bay; Mr. Richards obtained for me a native guide, who knew the country some distance east. He took us first to Pylebung (64 miles), an extraordinary native dam, and a clay tank, with clay circular wall 5 ft. high round it. It is a most astonishing thing, considering that it is the work of the aborigines. Thence to Whitegin—a small rock-hole—30 miles. Thence nearly north-east we reached Wynbring, a fine rock-hole in the crevice of granite rock, which stands about 50 ft. high, and is two or three acres, perhaps, in extent. Youldeh, Pylebung, Whitegin, and Wynbring are all in the densest of dense scrubs; heavy red sandhills, with thick mallee, mulga, acacia, Grevillea, casuarina, hakea, and spinifex; the dead underbush so thick that the camels could scarcely move along. Wynbring was 100 miles from Youldeh, and lying 10 deg. south of east from it. From here the guide knew the country no further, and declared that beyond this there was 'nothing, nothing.' Leaving Wynbring we came 220 miles through the most terrific scrubs, with an open break of 30 miles between, to a claypan with water in, and that saved us. The three horses died of thirst—one at 65 miles, one at 150, and the last at 168 miles. The camels carrying water, we gave the horses as much as possible till we were reduced to three pints. The heat was great, the thermometer day after day standing at 102 deg. in the shade. It was impossible to travel at night, as we should have left every eye on sticks in the scrubs. The 220-mile stretch from Wynbring to the claypan was done in eight days, the camels averaging 28 miles per day. They are wonderful, awe-inspiring, and marvellous creatures. I never praised God so much for anything before, and for such creatures I thank you and praise Him. Having found water, our progress was easy, each walking and riding by turns. I just touched upon the edge of Lake Torrens. From what I have seen I judge that there exists a vast desert of scrub of a triangular form, the base of which is at or near the western shores of Lake Torrens, and the sides running north-westerly from the southern foot, and most probably west from the northern cone to an apex at no great distance from my starting-point, Youldeh, and I think a line north from Youldeh would pass through it but a short distance. The way I came was nearly along its greatest length. It consists of two deserts, divided by a strip of open country, about thirty miles broad. The western and denser one I have named Richards' Desert, in gratitude to Mr. Richards for his own and his native's guidance; and the eastern one I have called Ross's Desert, as it was that that baffled Mr. John Ross, who got through the eastern, but never entered the larger western one. I shall hasten to Beltana, and am quite confident of the successful issue of the expedition."

Sir Wroth Acland Lethbridge, Bart., the Hon. Hedworth Yoliffe Jolliffe, Theodore Thring, Esq., John Francis Fortescue Horner, Esq., William Stephen Gore Langton, Esq., and Charles Thomas Dyke Acland, Esq., have been gazetted as Deputy-Lieutenants for Somerset.

The Welsh National Eisteddfod is this year to be held at Pwllheli, Carnarvonshire, and will occupy four days in the last week of August. The committee offer about £1000 for competition in a variety of subjects, embracing choral compositions, proficiency in the fine arts, and even including a prize for the best-made pair of balmoral shoes. Lords Penrhyn, Mostyn, Newborough, Sir W. W. Wynne, Mr. Lloyd Edwards, Mr. Jones Parry, and others of the local gentry, are evincing a warm interest in the success of the undertaking; and the prize-list has been liberally supplemented by Mr. Pictor Jones, the chairman of the committee. The proceeds are to go towards the University College for Wales.



